

Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXIII NO. 50 DECEMBER 16, 1993

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes The Winter Solstice

"During this season we can reclaim its magic"

by Reverend Morgan Dean,
Unity Center of Empowered Living, Oakland



Long before Christmas, even before Chanukah, the Winter Solstice was celebrated. In those ancient pagan times the Goddess was worshiped as the source of life, the Creatrix of the universe and the Queen of Heaven. She was the life and form of all substance and, therefore, life in all its forms was sacred.

The seasons of the year were regarded as her expression and were highlighted with the four major holy days and four lesser holy days. Our word 'holiday' originates from these celebrations. Spring and fall equinox were the days that daylight and darkness were of equal duration. Summer solstice was the longest day and shortest night of the year. On December 21st — winter solstice — the night, which had been growing longer throughout the fall and winter, reached its maximum length.

The birthday of Lucina, goddess of the sun, was celebrated then. She was honored through the lighting of fires — a form of sympathetic magic to encourage the sun to stay longer. In this way the beginning of a new year was assured.

The tradition of lighting candles at Christmas was a carry-over from this practice. Babies born at solstice were considered sacred, holy, and special, the fruit of the previous spring fertility season. Later Christianity appropriated this season to commemorate the birth of just one holy child. Even the evergreen tree that is brought into homes today was a tradition of this ancient season, a symbol of eternal life: The Tree of Life.

The celebration of Winter Solstice was not of one day's duration. It was a season of merry-making, entertainment, and ritual. It was an expression of life in the community in the dead of winter. Our New Year's Eve partying is another example of how we continue to live out the ancient ways.

The Goddess religion respected and honored life in all its forms. Homosexuality was seen as a special gift, freeing women and men from the burdens of a household so they could devote their lives to worship. The concept of 'original sin' of some other religions was an attempt to separate us from the sacred expressions of Divine Life that we are.

We are all holy children, daughters and sons of Divine cosmic energy. We are made of the same essence as the stars, as unique and perfect as snowflakes, all individual expressions of Divine Life. Honoring the sacredness of all life honors our own lives; respecting the uniqueness of each one of us creates an environment of mutual respect. As we do this, the duality of patriarchal religion — heaven vs. earth, spirit vs. matter — can give way to respect for life in all its forms. Through this we become co-creators of a new order of peace and plenty, joy and love, where we are all accepted as the unique and wonder-filled expressions of Divine Life that we are.

During this season we can reclaim its magic by releasing the pain and shame of the past. We can prepare for the awareness of the Holy Child within us — pure and innocent — a creative, perfect expression of Spirit. ▼

A practical spirituality that honors diversity and celebrates unity, the Unity Center of Empowered Living facilitates realization of the power within us to create a healthy body and mind, loving relationships, and an abundant lifestyle. The celebration Service is held each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at the Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd., in the Oakland Hills.

On Sunday, December 19th, the Solstice/Christmas Candlelight Service will include a special Tibetan Bowl Meditation. On January 9, the New Year's Burning Bowl and World Peace Ceremony will be held. Releasing mistakes of the past year through a symbolic fire ritual will be followed with a ceremony where each country of the world will be blessed. Everyone is welcomed. For further information, call (510) 874-4914. ▼



Better than a party

Dr. Edward Winger and Lou Edney of Immunodiagnostic Laboratories, San Leandro, delivers a Christmas gift basket to patient Gary McGinnis. IDL Employees like these delivered 200 Gift baskets on Wednesday, December 8, to AIDS patients at Davies, Coming Home Hospice, SF General, and Mount Zion, just to name a few; some went to Sonoma County as well. The IDL employees decided that instead of throwing a big expensive IDL Christmas party, they'd have a downsized party, and use the extra money to purchase gift baskets for PWAs.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

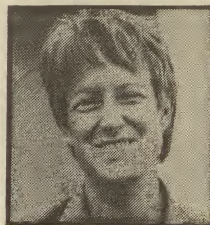
Buttino, FBI Settle Suit; Tillson Gets Agency Job

by Dennis Conkin

On Friday, December 10, one week after U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno issued an historic Department of Justice policy statement that bans job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, the FBI settled a lawsuit filed by former agent Frank Buttino, who charged he was fired in 1990 because he is gay.

In the negotiated settlement of Buttino's class action lawsuit against the agency, the FBI will no longer discriminate against lesbian and gay workers or job applicants and will hire a 32-year-old open lesbian as a special agent.

The settlement must be approved by U.S. District Court Judge Sandra Armstrong, who presided over the case. If Armstrong consents,



Dana Tillson, San Francisco-based lesbian private eye, and the FBI's next agent.

Buttino, 48, will receive an undisclosed lump sum payment of a portion of his \$50,000 a year back salary, and the FBI will issue a statement praising his 20-year career as a counter-espionage and organized crime expert.

Buttino, who originally sued for reinstatement, would have been eligible for retire-

ment from the agency in 1995.

Buttino is "very happy" with the settlement, said his attorney, Richard Gayer of San Francisco.

"We won. The FBI will change its policy and is going to hire gay and lesbian people. It's a landmark settlement," Gayer said.

According to Gayer, the government had a clear indication from the questions Armstrong asked witnesses that they were "going to lose the case."

Joe Krovitsky, a spokesman for the Justice Department, declined to discuss the case with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

During the trial, the FBI claimed that Buttino was fired not because of his sexual orientation but because he "lacked candor" and "was un-

(Continued on page 18)

Happy Holidays from Judge Bayless in Denver:

Amendment 2 is Overturned

by Kathy Deitsch

DENVER — A U.S. District judge ruled on Tuesday, December 14, that Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2 is unconstitutional. Judge Jeffrey Bayless permanently barred its enforcement. Existing protections in Denver, Aspen, and Boulder remain in effect.

The statute, which Colorado voters passed November 3, 1992, by 54 percent, would have made all existing

anti-discrimination ordinances, law, regulations, and policies in Colorado unenforceable and would have forbidden any entity from enacting future laws. In short, it would have prohibited "any branch or level" of government, including the judiciary, from enforcing "a claim of discrimination" on the basis of homosexuality, lesbian, or bisexual orientation.

Much of the Judge's decision was based on the Col-

orado Supreme Court's decision last July, ruling that equal participation in the political process is a fundamental right of citizenship. The right applies to all citizens who have been denied full participation, not simply those who are members of traditionally protected or "suspect classes such as racial or ethnic minorities." Amendment 2 "fences out" a class, in this case gays.

The Colorado high court

told the state that the burden at trial was to show at least one compelling state interest. Although the state presented six alleged interests, Bayless ruled the defendants failed to demonstrate any compelling reasons to support the amendment's enactment.

"Special rights?"

The term "special rights," introduced during the campaign by anti-gay forces, has

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Wayne Friday is on vacation.	
He will return next week.	

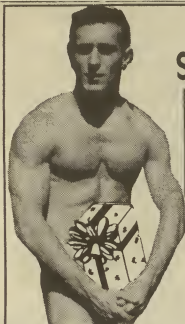
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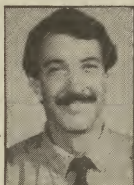
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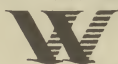
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Community News



And the ball flies in!

The annual Roll and Shoot tournament was held in the Mills College gymnasium on December 5. This tournament was a fundraiser for the Bay Area Meteorites, a top-notch women's wheelchair basketball team. The Roll and Shoots are open to all interested players, but all participants, whether experienced or not, must play from a wheelchair. (Photo: Judi Parks)

'Tis the Season of Clinical Trials

by Dennis Conkin

Several HIV clinical trials are underway in San Francisco, including the study of a new anti-viral drug and a study using Chinese herbs for the treatment of chronic diarrhea.

The Davies Institute for HIV Treatment and Research seeks subjects for two separate HIV drug studies. The first study involves a new anti-viral drug, Ateviridine (U-87), which will be tested in combination with AZT.

The second Davies study involves Pro-leukin, an immune system modulator.

Both trials are now recruiting participants.

Ateviridine (U-87) study

The Ateviridine study is a placebo study: participants will be divided into random groups and will receive one of two available doses of the drug or a placebo three times a day while they continue on AZT.

The study is seeking 150 participants who have a t-helper cells count between 50 and 350, have been on AZT for at least three months, do not have current acute medical problems, and have not used other retrovirals (ddI,

ddC, d4t or 3TC) in the last three months.

The Ateviridine study will last 54 weeks, with lab visits once every four weeks following enrollment. Free lab work, clinic evaluations and drugs, including AZT, will be provided during the duration of the study.

Pro-leukin study

In the second Davies study, all participants will receive Pro-leukin, a genetically engineered version of Interleukin 2, and will learn how to self-administer the drug by subcutaneous injection during the 15-month study.

Entry criteria for participants include a helper cell count between 200-500, and all subjects must have been on an approved retrovirals for at least two months before enrollment, with no current use of experimental anti-retrovirals such as d4T, 3TC, etc. Volunteers must not have had any previous AIDS-defining illness — although mucocutaneous Kaposi's sarcoma is allowed — or interleukin 2 therapy.

Participants will continue to receive Pro-leukin at the end of the trial if they wish. Free labwork and check-ups are also included in the study.

Chinese herb study

Participants are also sought for a study of the efficacy of Chinese herbs in the treatment of chronic diarrhea in people with HIV.

The five-week study is sponsored by the American College for Traditional Chinese Medicine, and is open to HIV-positive San Francisco residents who have had chronic diarrhea, frequent bowel movements, or loose stools over the past 30 days.

Participants will not receive acupuncture and are required to keep a diary of their diet and bowel movements during the course of the study.

A \$20 monthly fee will be charged for the standardized herbal preparation in the study if participants can afford it.

For more information about the Ateviridine study contact Sue Kelly, R.N., at 565-6058.

For more information about the Pro-leukin study contact Stephanie La Carruba, R.N., at 565-6524.

For more information about the Chinese herb study contact The Clinical Case Manager at American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, at 282-9603. ▼

How to Scare Up Money:

Halloween Grants Open for Application

by Dennis Conkin

More than \$35,000 was raised in donations at last October's annual Halloween In the Castro street event, an evening of entertainment and spectacle that was attended by several hundred thousand revellers.

Three quarters of the proceeds will go to support the work of Community United Against Violence, The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc., which produces the yearly event, according to Gordon Elkins of SPI.

The remainder of the funds are available as grants to Bay Area AIDS groups

that provide direct services or AIDS education to minority and high risk groups.

Proposals for the grants must be submitted by December 31.

Rules for application

Each application must include the amount requested, an outline of how they are to be spent, and the percentage of the group's total budget that the funds represent, Elkins said.

Last year, SPI received more than 20 applications for funding. The 11 grants awarded averaged between \$500 and \$1000.

"A committee of representatives from Community United Against Violence, The

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of San Francisco, and The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will meet in early January to select the grants recipients," Elkins said.

The Lesbian and Gay Chorus will participate in the review process this year because The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus gave half of its annual one-quarter share in the profits to the group.

Proposals should be mailed to Halloween In The Castro Grants Committee c/o SPI, Inc., 584 Castro Street Suite 392, San Francisco, California, 94114-2588. For more information about the grant application process contact (415) 552-0220. ▼



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Community News

Our Hero:

Assessor Ward Helps Create League of Cities' Gay Caucus

by Dennis Conkin

The National League of Cities now has a bona fide lesbian and gay caucus, thanks to the efforts of one of its board members, San Francisco Assessor Doris Ward.

The issue had been brought to the group's board of directors last July, at which time there was some controversy about it, Ward told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

NLC, which is comprised of members of local governments from around the country, had already established a women's caucus, and African-American, Hispanic, and Asian-American caucuses, when the lesbian and gay caucus was proposed, Ward said. It was not universally supported.

"They put up all kinds of resistance, there were suggestions for further study and to develop criteria for the caucus. But, I just told them that if the board of directors did not recognize the lesbian and gay caucus, San Francisco would withdraw its membership in the National League



City Assessor Doris Ward

of Cities," Ward told the *B.A.R.* "I named some other cities that would withdraw, too."

Ward, a heterosexual, said that unless the same criteria that was used for the rest of the NLC caucuses was used for the lesbian and gay caucus, San Francisco would be joined in its withdrawal by West Hollywood, Santa Mon-

ica, and Sunnyvale, California; Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Denver, Colorado, among others.

The issue of the caucuses faded after the board meeting, until it was raised again at the NLC's annual membership conference meeting last week, Ward said.

"There were people there from all over the United States, ranging from liberal to conservative," Ward told the *B.A.R.* And when the subject was reintroduced, garnering objections from conservatives, she was ready.

"The issue came up again," she recalled, "and the conservatives started talking like last July, about developing some criteria for the caucus. I said that was just bullshit. It was already done. We had grandfathered the caucus in and the issue never came to a formal vote."

Almost as amazing as the eventual lack of meaningful resistance was the lack of media hoopla about Ward's accomplishment. "It was just so natural that I forgot to tell anyone," she laughed. ▼

New S.F. Ambulance Policy Respects Right to Die at Home

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Health Commission voted late Tuesday, December 7, to adopt a new policy allowing ambulance personnel to not resuscitate unconscious victims who have notified the city they do not want to be revived.

The new policy, which supplants regulations requiring emergency personnel to take often-drastic measures to

revive victims of cardiac arrest, is intended primarily to aid terminally ill patients who want to die at home.

People who want to refuse such treatment will have to sign a document beforehand.

"The public should know that they should have these discussions with their primary physician, who will get these documents from the San Francisco Medical Society," said Richard Brody, the chairman of San Francisco

General Hospital.

Hospital patients already are able to sign such documents, he said.

Brody said the commission adopted the new policy, which has been under study for the past year, by a 6-0 vote.

Similar policies have been instituted by two-thirds of the counties in the state, according to Angelina Mendoza of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority. ▼

AEF Elects New Board: Tomaszewski Becomes Prez

by I.A. Kisselman

The AIDS Emergency Fund elected new officers and installed a new board of directors on Tuesday, December 14. The new president is Art Tomaszewski (pronounced ThomasCHEVsky), a well-known figure in the leather community. He will succeed Rick Salinas, who is retiring from that post after three and a half years.

Paul Causey, host of the cable television program *Helping Hands*, is the new vice president. Dennis Wade continues as secretary.

Tomaszewski's election maintains the strong connection between the South of Market community and AEF, which has existed since the fund was first created. Tomaszewski is the creator of the annual Leatherwalk fundraising event for AEF, in which money is pledged to members



Can you say "President Tomaszewski?"
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

of the leather community who walk from the Headquarters bar in the Castro to the San Francisco Eagle on Harrison and 12th streets. "He's terrific," Salinas told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I know he'll do a great job."

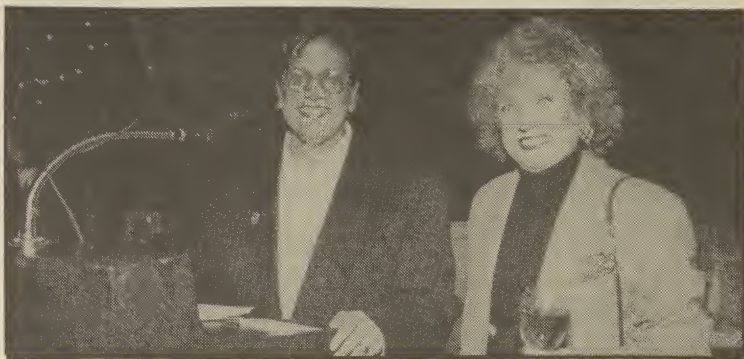
After stepping down as president, Salinas says he will still continue with the fund, where he has been involved for over nine years and has been a board member since 1988.

The AIDS Emergency Fund contributes direct financial assistance to people with AIDS and disabling HIV. Approximately 95 percent of the money raised goes directly back to San Francisco PWAs. Earlier this year, it collected its 500 millionth penny in its ongoing Penny Project — mostly from change contributed by gay and lesbian bar patrons.

The 1993-94 AEF board members are:

- Val Asuncion;
- Brian Bond;
- Pamela Busch;
- Leslie Ewing;
- Mychael Robinson;
- Rich Turner; and
- Keith Truitt. ▼

Community News



Susan Leal held a successful kickoff fundraiser for her election campaign on Thursday, December 9, at Trader Vic's. She is shown here with Barbara Kaufman (right), who is not a lesbian supervisor but who — unlike another female heterosexual supervisor — signs letters in support of gay rights.

Lesbian Supes Take the Lead In Addressing Anti-Gay Bigotry

by Dennis Conkin

Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors thanked Apple Computer last week and scolded the powerful California Judges Association this week over their gay rights stances, at the behest of lesbian Supervisors Carole Migden and Susan Leal.

In a letter to Michael Spindler, Chief Executive Officer of Apple U.S.A., members of the Board saluted Spindler for his leadership after Williamson County, Texas officials voted not to approve a plan to give the firm tax breaks that would allow it to build a 700-employee computer manufacturing site in the area.

Officials initially nixed the plan because Apple gives health care benefits to domestic partners of lesbian and gay employees.

The anti-gay county commissioners later reversed their decision.

"In the face of the bigotry and pressure so rampant in Williamson County, many other companies eager to expand their operations might have decided it best to abandon the issue of civil rights for domestic partners," said

the letter, authored by Supervisor Carole Migden.

"On behalf of the lesbians and gay men in San Francisco, for that matter, the many heterosexual domestic partners out of City, we want to express our enormous appreciation for your outspoken support of this issue. Your leadership has not gone unnoticed," Migden said.

The letter was signed by Migden and Leal, as well as Supervisors Barbara Kaufman, Tom Hsieh, Bill Maher, Sue Bierman, Terence Hallinan, Willie Kennedy and Angela Alioto.

Judging the judges

In a December 13 letter to the California Judges Association, authored by Supervisor Susan Leal, members of the Board blasted CJA for its recent decision not to prohibit judges from belonging to any group that discriminates against gays.

The Board urged the association to reconsider its position on the ethics issue.

"As you know, the Code already bars judges from discriminating against lesbians and gays in court and requires that you hold lawyers

and court staff members to the same standard," the letter stated. "It seems only logical that this ethical standard would be applied to memberships as it is against groups that practice 'invidious discrimination' on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin."

The letter was signed by all supervisors except Tom Hsieh, who was in China, Kevin Shelley, who was in Israel, and Annemarie Conroy, who said she needed more information about the issue before she could sign the letter. ▼

INS Rounds Up 'Sex Offenders' in S.F.

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — Federal immigration officials revealed Monday, December 13, that a program aimed at ridding Northern California of illegal immigrants who are habitual criminals has resulted in the arrest of 40 convicted sex offenders.

Joseph Brandon, head of investigations at San Francisco's Immigration and Naturalization Service office, said the focus on sex offenders may be expanded over time to all crimes.

"It [focusing on sex crimes] was a matter of economics," Brandon said. "We couldn't afford to cover all crimes so we targeted what we felt was the most dangerous threat to the public." The specific nature of the sex crimes com-

mitted by the immigrants has not been made public.

The program went into effect in September and literally has involved immigrants from all around the world. Thirty felons from Mexico have been taken into custody, with others coming from Greece, Vietnam, the Philippines, Lebanon, and El Salvador.

Brandon said the immigrants have either been deported or were in the process of being deported.

The illegal aliens were brought to the INS's attention after being convicted in courts in the San Francisco Bay Area. Brandon said that thanks to a new state law, local authorities are now instructed to contact the INS whenever an illegal alien is involved in a crime. ▼

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BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

VOL. XXIII NO. 50 DECEMBER 16, 1993

NEXT ISSUE OUT: DECEMBER 23, 1993

NEXT DEADLINE: DECEMBER 17, 1993

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Mike Salinas, News Editor
Chris Culwell, Arts/Entertainment Editor
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Editorial

In Support of Elders

It was awfully refreshing to hear Dr. Joycelyn Elders, the U.S. Surgeon General, speaking candidly last week about the failure of this country's "war on drugs," and frankly addressing the possibility of decriminalization. Thereafter, it was just awful hearing the inevitable response from the White House and elsewhere, that Elders was somehow endorsing criminal behavior, blah, blah, blah, blah.

Less than a week later, that same White House reversed itself without meaning to, when President Clinton commended the men who disarmed that maniac on the New York commuter train. Obviously trying to state a larger theme at the time, Clinton hammered home the point that those heroes felt *compelled* to act, since *not* acting was the greater danger. His point is well-taken — and is no less true when the person acting is Elders, an African-American woman, instead of white males.

We mention this because the way most politicians deal with drugs seems to be part of the larger issue of America's unwillingness to face any of its problems realistically. Back when Governor Wilson was ignoring the statewide needle exchange bill, before he went ahead and killed it, one advocate of the program pointed out to the media that needles don't *cause* drug addiction any more than martini glasses *cause* alcoholism. And yet needles are demonized. In the case of AIDS — another subject where irrational ideas are frequently accepted as logical by the same people who support the country's current drug policy — it has been noted that condoms don't *encourage* sex any more than air bags *encourage* head-on collisions. And yet people demonize condoms.

Well, not people, exactly. Politicians do, and as everyone knows, they are rarely like real people. They have their agendas and their commitments, making it difficult for most of them to act as anyone else with any sense might, and in the case of drugs, they profit in dozens of ways from the status quo. Most importantly, they are obviously not making any headway against the misery that has risen along with the rise of the "drug war." Can we afford to not stop it?

We are acutely familiar with the damage that drugs have visited upon this country in the past two decades, but we also suspect that much of what is blamed on the drugs themselves may have been caused by misguided efforts to eradicate them. (Put another way: was it communism or the attempt to squash it that destroyed Vietnam?) If drugs were sold as alcohol is now, street dealers would be no more of a problem than rum runners have been since the 1930s. But maintaining the current system — with its high profit margins and lack of regulations, supervision, and licensing — absolutely guarantees there will always be a street dealer, either in your neighborhood or right around the corner. Probably with a gun. Prohibition has failed: it's time to face that and take a fresh approach before America is reduced to ashes in its own futile civil war.

Then, when some sense has returned, perhaps we can begin to tax the drug trade — which, it is said, is second only to arms sales as an industry — and thereby provide enough funds for a comprehensive American healthcare plan, not to mention drug therapy programs, which are in very short supply now even for those who really want the help. The savings we would realize if our leaders simply stopped their present expensive and worthless anti-drug efforts could pay for schools. And maybe if we had enough of those — good ones — we could keep our kids in classrooms and they wouldn't spend as much time in crack houses. It's a thought.

There is so much for us to spend money on, and so little to spend. Faced with that choice, we don't think interdiction, mandatory prison terms, and the like can measure up against shelter, food, clothing, education, infrastructure repair, product research, hospitals, libraries, day care, and job training.

We support Elders unequivocally, as the most original thinker and the most courageous voice in the Clinton administration. Now we can't wait to see what she intends to do about AIDS. ▼



(Photo: Phil Migliarese, Jr.)

Top scientists, applying the, er, "logic" used to trash Surgeon General Elders' support of AIDS education & needle exchange, have made startling new public health recommendations!



Guest Opinion

It's Education Time

by Ronald L. Sousa,
Fifth Grade Teacher,
Alvarado Elementary School

In an era when we should be dimming lights, and flying flags half mast worldwide, to make the world aware of the hideous AIDS epidemic we are faced with, I for one find it incredulous to learn of parents such as Marsha Glantz and the President of the San Francisco PTA, Helen Luey, questioning San Francisco's Public Schools for honoring and recognizing World AIDS Day in its schools. The fact remains not enough has been done in our schools — as well as with the general public, judging from these typical homophobic responses — to properly educate the world on the current AIDS disaster.

As a fifth grade teacher in the San Francisco Public School System, I not only informed my students' parents (well in advance) that their children would receive AIDS related instruction on December 1, but also at various other occasions throughout the school year. I did not receive one negative comment from parents. Our class day began with a phone call to Dione Jones, R.N., Head Nurse, Ward 5A, at San Francisco General Hospital. We wanted actual first names of current AIDS patients so the students could write letters to them. While students wrote their letters, we watched the video *Common Threads*, a 1989 documentary on the world famous AIDS quilt. This was followed by a showing of a

short segment recently aired on KTVU, showing how one local San Francisco Church, Metropolitan Community Church, is coping with the AIDS epidemic.

The day's activities were highlighted by a panel of three HIV-positive men who agreed to come and share their stories with the children. The children generated the questions and reacted very positively to the responses the panelists gave them. The following day four students and I delivered the letters and drawings to Ward 5A. Students had the rare opportunity to visit and shake hands with the various patients. It was a heartwarming experience.

Be aware this was not a one-day isolated lesson: my class has been studying about AIDS (a Board of Education-approved curriculum) since September. My students know how AIDS is contracted and how it is not contracted. They also know AIDS is not a gay disease, rather anyone including babies and teens can contract it.

Therefore, Marsha and Helen and other concerned parents, in the words of the activists, "Silence=Death," I welcome any of you to visit my classroom and learn along with the children! What are we afraid of? We can no longer hide behind the screen that this is *their* disease. This is a world epidemic and it's time we Americans — as well as people from every nation — unite and press our governments into recognizing their responsibility in searching for a cure. Use your voices wisely and join in the chorus of educating the world on AIDS. ▼

**The fact remains
not enough has been
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Letters

Don't Blame Sanctions

I was concerned to read the lead article in your issue of Dec. 2, dealing with the situation of HIV patients in former Yugoslavia.

The article states that such patients are victims of the "war economy and sanctions" against the Belgrade regime. The article makes no reference whatever to the responsibility of the Serbian leadership for the situation. It neglects to mention the role of black marketeers, protected by the Serbian government, in speculating on and hoarding medical supplies. It maintains silence on the repression of gay/lesbian/bisexual activists in Serbia, except to discreetly note, in, frankly, the language of the closet, that a "stigma" exists and that "sexual hygiene is a taboo subject." It ignores the homophobic Serbian propaganda that labels all Muslim men gay and worthy of death, and that has accused Croatia and Bosnia of "importing AIDS" into the area.

Nobody with the least compassion wishes another human being to undergo the medical horrors involved in the HIV plague. But to intimate, as the article does, however subtly, that the suffering of such patients is mainly caused by the sanctions is, in my entirely personal view, unacceptable.

While it is true that innocent Serbs, including presumably HIV patients, must undergo hardship because of the sanctions, blame must be placed where it belongs: with the Serbian fascist regime that launched the war. There would be no sanctions without the atrocities committed by the Serbian dictator, Milosevic and his cohorts. Serbs and Montenegrins have nobody to blame for their suffering but their own leaders.

To ascribe the dire situation of HIV patients in Yugoslavia to the "war economy and sanctions" is almost equivalent to blaming the martyrdom of Jews, gays, Poles and others in Auschwitz on the "war economy and actions by German's allied enemies" in World War II. In fact, such is a Holocaust-revisionist argument.

Stephen Schwartz
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Unfortunately, space considerations prohibited another history of the Yugoslavian conflict; we were mostly interested in HIV treatment and prevention methods there which have gone unreported elsewhere.

And by the way, suffering caused by a person's national leaders does not make the suffering any less tragic; just consider the Americans who died of AIDS under Reagan or Bush — or Clinton.

Whose Community?

This letter is in response to the CUAV column of Dec. 2, regarding alleged exclusion of womyn from the Castro "community," a "safe and nurturing community."

The article raises more questions than it answers. Why is it so all-important for lesbians and bi-women to have this vaunted "community" with gay men? What do we really have in common except when some right wing goon is after us?

If there are bars which engage in discriminatory carding, have the courage to name them. You complain that you had to open your own lesbian-dedicated space because you got tired of waiting for your "gay brothers" to do it. Huh?

Men (gay men? straight men?) feel perfectly free to disregard women's space while not allowing women access to their spaces. How is access denied? Again — which bars? I hope the authors remember the Women-Only Dyke March in June; the women-only music festivals up at Camp Mather; the women-only Dykes on Bikes (Women's Motorcycle Contingent), while they rage over their evil gay brothers.

Unmentioned is the welcoming community atmosphere no doubt formerly encountered at Maud's, Francine's, Baybrick Inn and Amelia's. I'm sure unsupportive gay brothers are somehow to blame for the closure of these places.

A couple of months ago, I marched in the political funeral of Joan Baker, a lesbian who died of AIDS. Maybe 40 percent of those present were men, maybe more, maybe less. A woman loudly complained about why all the men were there, and why they were not all in the back where we presumably belonged! Presumably, if no men showed up at all, the complaints would have been about lack of "community" support.

It is all pretty confusing when I remember the San Francisco Department of Public Health study on lesbian/bi women and HIV, published in this paper a month or two ago. It showed that of 482 lesbian/bi women, over 400 had had sex with men in the last three years. This would lead me to wonder whether a straight pick-up bar might be a better place to seek "community" with men.

If lesbian/bi womyn feel that gay men are so misogynistic and benighted, please feel free to ask what, if anything, unites as a community, and to ask why women cannot create their own "safe and nurturing community" of womyn-only space in a neighborhood that you can shape in your image rather than this precious Castro with its t-shirt shops, streetcorner pushers and misogynistic bars.

Eric Llaneza
San Francisco

Clinton a Borderline Criminal

For those who may have missed the front page article entitled "Experts Slam Government Efforts to Stop AIDS" in the Sunday, Nov. 28 edition of the *San Francisco Examiner*, here are few of the highlights.

The 50-member federally appointed Advisory Committee on the Prevention of HIV Infection came to the following conclusions: "that the Federal Centers Disease Control and Prevention's \$539 million annual effort to slow the spread of HIV has been a dismal failure; Congress has been too conservative with funding and created a political climate that led to censoring plain talk about sex and HIV transmission; the government has failed to identify transmission trends accurately because it counts only AIDS cases, not new HIV infections; government HIV testing sites made little effort to assist people in reducing high-risk behaviors and referral services were usually nonexistent; by shying away from blunt, explicit language, the government fails to deliver effective warnings against high-risk behavior; programs to prevent infections among high-risk youths are seriously underfunded; because the CDC directed prevention efforts at a 'mainstream' audience, those at greatest risk — gay men, African-Americans and Latinos — have missed the message."

The article goes on to mention that "... AIDS is the number one cause of death among men ages 25 to 44, and the fourth leading cause of death among women in this age range."

On that same Sunday, the NBC evening news reported that there are an estimated 15 million Americans infected with the AIDS virus, that two-thirds of new AIDS diagnoses will be among teenage girls and that one out of five women currently infected with HIV is a teenager.

The Dec. 9 issue of *Rolling Stone* carried an 8000 word interview with President Clinton discussing the following topics: having fun as President, the Arab embrace, the presidential honeymoon, relations with the press, hostile Republicans, conservative Democrats, middle class fears, Sam Nunn, the budget stimulus package, campaign finance reform, crime, violence, gun control, the Brady Bill, putting more police on the streets, drug prevention, defense budget cuts, the CIA, Haiti, Bosnia and Russia.

Not one word about AIDS! It borders on criminal! Once again the President of the United States has failed to place AIDS at the top of the list.

It is long past due for President Clinton to bring the same determination and arm-twisting to the war against AIDS that he gave to getting his budget passed, NAFTA approved and the Brady Bill signed into law. Until he moves AIDS to the top of his agenda, budgets and treaties will become mute. There will be nothing left to budget or trade.

Bill Smith
San Francisco

Traffic Directions

Within the last month it was projected that half the gay men in San Francisco are HIV-positive and there is a new wave of HIV infection among gay men. Some sex clubs were mentioned as part of the report.

Obviously people have different reasons for going to a sex club, but why do some people frequent a sex club and show no interest in anyone there nor want to be touched by anyone there? We consider ourselves fairly good-looking and when we make an attempt to let guys know we're interested in them, most of them jump back as if we have leprosy. Then these same guys continue their endless walk around the club for hours in tunnel-vision style having achieved nothing and remaining alone. Later, we see these guys standing up against the wall and when approached by anyone they once again quickly take off. This happens with "G.Q." type guys as well as those that we personally find unattractive, so it's across-the-board in terms of looks. On our last sex club visit, one frustrated guy asked us "is this a freeway in here or what?" We replied, "we refer to it as the 'DC Capital Beltway' because guys just walk endlessly in circles."

What we find frustrating about sex clubs is that if one is not into oral or anal sex, one might as well stay home because few guys seem to be into mutual masturbation. The gay sex video industry has programmed our community into thinking that one must screw or suck in order to have sex. Screwing and sucking can feel great, but wake up guys — we're talking about risky behavior and condoms are not always used at sex clubs even though they are provided by the club. According to the AIDS Foundation, HIV is present in pre-cum. One never knows how long a guy has been sucked off before the next person services him. One never knows whether the guy a person is about to suck has just had unprotected anal sex with another person. So, we're talking HIV transmission — period!

Our suggestion to the men who don't want to be touched: Try taking the next Exit off the Capital Beltway just to see if you might like the feel of human touch, and to all sex club goers, please try safer sex. By practicing safer sex, you'll live a lot longer to enjoy a healthy sex life rather than being part of the projected half of the gay men in San Francisco who will, unfortunately, have their picture and obituary in the *B.A.R.* in the future, due, in part to the same risky behavior many of you are currently practicing.

Jerome Atkinson and Larry Bender
San Francisco

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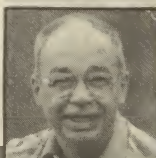
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Letters

A Visitor's Comments

It has been around 10 years since I first visited San Francisco. I fell in love with the place and have been back every year since. During one calendar year, I was in San Francisco three times — and I don't travel for business!

I have been touched by the extremes. I love the city, its people and the "live and let live" tone of San Francisco. I am angered by the drastic increase of street people and the area around the Civic Center most of all. Are there no shelters for these souls?

I am despaired by so very many dead or dying in the city. AIDS has claimed many a wonderful friend in your town.

I am happy for good times, good friends, and the beauty of San Francisco. It's true, you know, there's no place quite like it.

I've had many adventures there, in every sense of the word.

Ron Sapp
Dover, Delaware

Tribute to a Leather Man

In the short time that we are all on this earth, we encounter certain people whose ideals, thoughts, aspirations for our community and very being, empowers us to make the most out of life. I have met such a person. He has taken the worst of situations along with the best of experiences in life and distilled them into an existence of service and dedication to the betterment of our lifestyle.

I will never forget the day I met Mitch Johnson. It was during the pre-judging for the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather title in Washington, DC two years ago where Mitch, then Mr. Leather of San Francisco as a judge, asked the question about leather pride and community service. And it was Mitch who took time out to speak to me about his experiences as a title holder and advised me to just go out and do my very best. "Do it from the heart" he said. "Do it with confidence." I will never forget that advice. Those two sentences have been the cornerstones of my year with the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather title. They will remain cornerstones of my entire future.

Our community owes a lot to Mitch Johnson. He unselfishly gave of himself as a community leader and as a fighter for our rights. He gave us a direction when we were sometimes lost. Not by preaching, but by his own example.

They say a man's worth can be measured by the friendships he has acquired; and by how much he is loved and also by the positive effect he has had on countless people, both in and out of leather.

I speak only for myself in saying with confidence and from my heart, that Mitch represented to me the best that our community can offer — a leader among men, and yes, a knight in shining armor and a man for all seasons of life.

Mitch, your memory will live on in the hearts of all who strive for leather pride, the very same hearts that are now deeply saddened. Hopefully, your self-determination, dedication to friends and community and pride in leather will inspire others to follow the same route to service and loyalty to dedication of not only leather men and women, but to others in the entire community.

Frank Nowicki
Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '93
Arlington, VA

Vocal and Accountable?

The following letter was sent to Mayor
Frank Jordan, City Hall, San Francisco:

We are greatly dismayed with your decision to replace Lawrence Wong on the Human Rights Commission.

One would hope that you originally appointed Wong to serve on this important city commission because you wanted a human rights advocate who would passionately defend the rights of all San Franciscans. Yet, Wong is being replaced specifically because he did speak out on human rights issues.

When Wong advocated for the removal of Eugene Lumpkin from the HRC after Lumpkin made homophobic comments which supported violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation, it was a human rights issue. And, when Wong supported a resolution denouncing immigrant-bashing and helped to give you your first veto override at the Board of Supervisors, this too was based on a human rights issue.

Wong's advocacy on behalf of both of these issues is no less than San Franciscans expect and demand of their Human Rights Commissioners.

We are especially dismayed by your callousness in replacing Wong with someone who happens to be gay and believing that this is sufficient. Replacing an Asian-American gay man who is active in both communities and a white, gay man who no one has ever heard of, is a slap in the face of both the Asian/Pacific Islander community and the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender community. While Earl Rynerson may be a wonderful person, will he be the vocal and accountable community activist that a Human Rights Commissioner must be?

Executive Committee, Harvey Milk
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club
San Francisco

Pushy Thanks

The Empress Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinner Program, Inc., would like to thank all of the volunteers who gave of their time and money for this past Thanksgiving Day Dinner.

Those in particular include the Gay Rescue Mission, The Castro Lions Club, Jessie Shin, Empress VIII Maxine, the gang at Old Rick's Gold Room, Grand Duchess Suzie Wong, Hal Gage and Stan and St. Paulus Lutheran Church.

These people, businesses and all of the volunteers helped provide Thanksgiving Day dinner for over 800 people.

Empress Pushy Phyllis, Chairperson
Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinner Program,
Inc., San Francisco

Always Asking "Why?"

These are hard times for queers in San Francisco.

Many of our friends and lovers are hurting inside. Many of our brothers and sisters are dealing with drug and alcohol problems. They may not realize that they have a problem. Nobody, not even their supposed "friends," bothers to get real and tell them to take it easy or to get help. While no one has the right to tell people not to use drugs or alcohol, our culture and our nightlife seem to thrive on denying there is a problem and glorifying their usage. Most club promoters and drug dealers are not doing what they do for your health or theirs.

We already know that there is a high incidence of falling into unsafe sexual practices when under the influence. Don't beat yourself up when this happens. Reach out to your real friends, get help and make some changes. We must make informed choices about what we put into our bodies. So if you do drugs, be careful, take care of yourselves and each other. Stay away from synthetic drugs and stick with natural substances. If you insist on combining drugs with sex, then always play safe and keep condoms nearby. We have a responsibility to look out for each other's well being and safety.

So if being queer is not about doing lines of speed, then what is it about? It isn't about dick size, chest size or breast size. It isn't about money, class or position. It isn't about The Gap, BMW or living in the ghetto. It is about brothers loving brothers, sisters loving sisters and everything in between. It is about accepting all members of the community as part of the family. It is about fighting AIDS and talking about your feelings. It is about questioning the status quo and always asking "Why?" What makes us special is what makes us queer.

Timothy Buttercup
San Francisco

Nice Clothing

I thank Benjamin Ahard for his letter ("Sweater Queen") in B.A.R., Dec. 9. While there are many issues of great importance facing our community, I will readily admit that watching out for nice clothing isn't quite on the same level as watching out for what Lou Sheldon has been up to lately, it should be clear that taking pride in one's appearance is also important; how can we be proud of ourselves as a community if we can't even have enough respect for ourselves to put a bit of extra time and effort into how we present ourselves to others.

I do take exception, though, to Mr. Ahard's use of the term "sauntering" in his description of men moving down Castro Street. While he seems to be able to afford his cashmere sweaters (of which I also have quite a few), it would seem that he is unaware that gentlemen of good breeding, whether gay, straight or other, do not saunter for any reason, unless perhaps they are acting out a part onstage.

Also, per the Editors' note ("Care for what?"): Dressing well shows that you care for your appearance. If you care for your appearance, you care for yourself, and if you care for yourself, it's far more likely that you'll be able to care for people and causes other than yourself.

Derek Prince
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Unless you spend all day primping, mousing and fluffing your sweaters. This is exactly the sort of classist, snotty, lookist behavior that makes us the easy objects of ridicule. Your devotion to the banal may keep overpriced shop owners wealthy and our streets crowded with "sauntering" cashmere, but it serves no other purpose.

Correction: The credit for the photograph of the Rev. Michael Pozar in last week's issue of the B.A.R. was accidentally omitted. It was a Pacifica Tribune photo by David Guralnick.

Dykeotomy

Scapegoating From Without and Within

by Nancy Boutilier

As lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgenders, we have historically been blamed for all sorts of ills. First, there's the controversy around choice. The illogic of some allows that if sexual orientation is a choice, then any pain we suffer as a result of society's bigotry is deserved—the result of our "choice" to love.

Then, when we are gay bashed, we have heard the charge familiar to victims of rape: we have asked for it by flaunting our sexuality. The unwanted sexual advance de-

before he recognizes the folly of his own false evangelism, I will read that lesbians are to blame for NASA's inability to launch the next rocket and gays are at fault for the failing infrastructure of urban areas. Certainly, if you listened to the hearings on gays in the military, you know that gay soldiers were at fault for any hostility they encountered on base. And homophobia was never cited as the cause for loss of morale when gay and lesbian soldiers could be blamed. No doubt, if the Giants had moved to Tampa Bay, our local gay community would take the rap.

We work hard to proclaim that we are everywhere, all the while others are insisting that we're to blame for everything. Long after the phrase "lesbian chic" fades away, Midwesterners will recall, as Kate Clinton has pointed out, that 1993 was the year that



"Gays don't need civil rights." Devout Catholic and gay editor Andrew Sullivan

"weak dikes" caused major flooding.

As disturbing as scapegoating can be when it comes from outside the lesbian and gay community, the scapegoating that comes from within is even more unsettling. Not only does the religious and political right successfully misrepresent who we are with sex, lies, and videotapes, but once we're cast as stereotyped monsters, we also find a gay and lesbian chorus of complicity waiting in the wings to help distinguish the "good" queers from the "evil" ones. Up from the margins of queer culture and into the

We work hard to proclaim that we are everywhere, all the while others are insisting that we're to blame for everything.

mainstream of America, Marvin Liebman, Andrew Sullivan, Bruce Bawer, Camille Paglia and others sit poised to accept praise for distancing themselves from those queers who would actually like to change society.

Bawer, who calls being



Table Mannerisms: Bawer

gay "an inconvenience" in his book *A Place at the Table*, seems more interested in seeing gay men and lesbians conform to society by entering into gay marriage than in seeing mainstream culture reset its table. And Sullivan's rhetoric is palatable enough for the evangelical magazine *Christianity Today* to applaud his position that gays and lesbians do not need laws to protect their civil rights.

Queer justice

Although we're not yet in a position for a great political compromise, I foresee a time when many who call themselves queer are sold out by those who best replicate the nuclear family. No doubt a queer somewhere is coveting the Supreme Court seat just to the right of Clarence Thomas.

High-profile pundits like Sullivan are not, of course, the only ones selling out the community. When the right wing successfully promotes a picture of us that doesn't seem to apply to any individual, who among us hasn't been tempted to blame our community's problems on others—the drag queens, the leather folk, the transgenders, the bull dykes, the street activists, the assimilationists, the feminists, the queer boys with pierced tongues?

And am I not dangerously close to the edge here, wanting to call conservative gays traitors to the cause? I am sure the right wing struggles with the presence of conservative gays as much as the left wing does.

When a colleague asks if I own leather chaps, I say I do not, hoping it to sound like the fact that is not a judgment of those who do, adding "I don't own a pair of denim overalls, either."

I am a high school teacher and, like Dale Brown, a basketball coach. I do not believe that I am contributing to the crime rate by being a lesbian. I hope I am contributing to the education of young people by being who I am. My students challenge me, too. They have met my partner. They know we have two cats and a dog, that we grocery shop together. All that is familiar enough. But in conversation I've heard them warn one another about the Castro. They fear the neighborhood. They occasionally joke about it. Yet, it's my neighborhood. I live there and have to put two and two together for them to see that I am part of the anonymous "them" of the gay community.

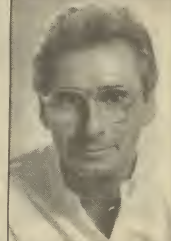
I have to stop them when they make jokes about the people who seem "half-man and half-woman."

When a relative asked about NAMBLA, I found myself scrambling to point out that pedophilia is its own category of sexuality that crosses the lines of gay and straight and wishing that straight pe-

(Continued on page 12)

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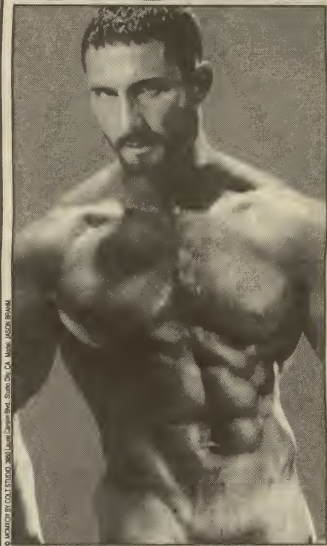
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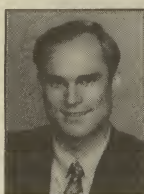
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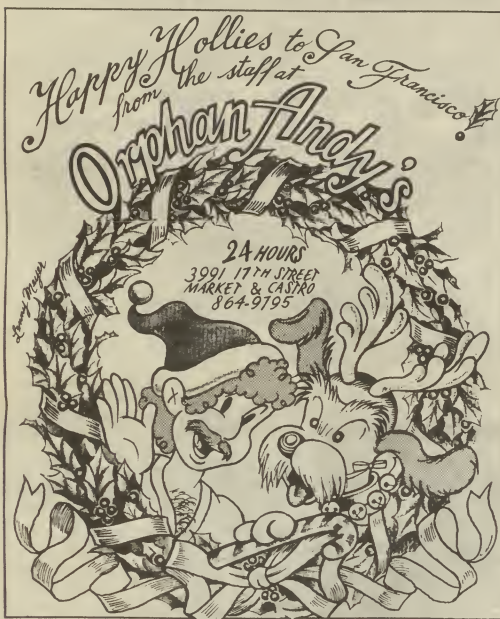
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Community

Music for Munchkins

What Gay and Lesbian Parents/Aunts/Uncles/Etc. Are Giving

by Mark Freeman

Even if you've never aimed to be a parent, in this new-fangled age of mix 'n' match families you may find yourself somehow related to somebody's little one. Now it's holiday gift time. This child might just be too darn young for modern primitive jewelry and/or skin illustrations. Perhaps the kid in question has two mommies or two daddies but has previously purchased the few books on that subject. He or she may already own a tyke-sized motorcycle jacket and an entire wardrobe in rainbow. Or perchance the poor soul is trapped in a traditional Republican family, and you may turn out to be the only hope for alternative subversion.

So now, with little time left for shopping, and no inclination to scour toy stores for Barney or Barbie merchandise, you need something both post-modern and gay/lesbian positive, and you need it quick: your answer might be music, available by catalogue, via telephone.

Old radical, sex-lib and genderbending sounds have been on the market for decades. Woody Guthrie performed working-class kid songs back in the '40s. The ever-sibulant Noel Coward song-spied Ogden Nash verses to Saint-Saens's "Carnival of the Animals" on a 1950 recording, and a closeted Danny Kaye crooned "Inch Worm" and "Thumbelina" to youngsters as the so-sensitive Hans Christian Anderson, in the 1953 film. Alan Arkin, his father blacklisted, sang in a progressive kiddie-folk ensemble, The Babysitters. Malvina Reynolds wrote her anti-suburban anthem "Little Boxes" while Peter, Paul and Mommy held '60s tykes in thrall. Then in the '70s, Marlo Thomas & Friends (Carol Channing's voice, Mel Brooks as a baby, linebacker Roosevelt Grier singing "It's All Right To Cry") swept the juvenile market with their non-sexist, non-racist *Free To Be You and Me*.

But the '80s, as decades go, offered little for younger kids, unless you can count Morrissey's paean, "Suffer the Children," on the first Smiths LP (unlikely). And k.d. lang still has not recorded a disc for that whole generation of babydykes. During the '80s the first TV generation came of age by punking commercial Rock 'n' Roll into a well-deserved grave — New Wave wiped the slate clean, musically.

Meanwhile, the Sesame Street muppets prepared today's children well for the '90s — a retro musical period in which the whole preceding century of pop music styles and traditions have received wide attention.

So, here goes a highly subjective, no-apologies-offered list of available favorites: oldies, roots, retro, and progressive.

First on the list of considerations is the ragtime piano of Hoyle Osborn and the remarkable tinkly voice of Jane Voss, coming together to bring 'teens and '20s music to life for young people on *Side By Side*. No child's musical preparation is complete with-



out knowing the classics, and what qualifies better than Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy Field's "On the Sunny Side Of the Street"? But this early jazz era education doesn't end there. "Papa's On the House-top" is a subversive bit of hokum by bluesman Leroy Carr. "Eli Green's Cakewalk" by Sadie Koninsky dates from 1898, and "Hello, Hawaii, How Are Ya?" is perfect Tin Pan Alley Yiddishism. In a more modern vein, Voss sings two ballads: Frank Loesser's "Inch Worm" (the very one Danny Kaye premiered) and her own loving "Song to a Shrinking Violet." All this infectious good fun is available on cassette from A Gentle Wind, Box 3103, Albany N.Y. 12203; 518-436-0391. One eight-year old femme we know sang out each song, in front of a full-length mirror, in huge hats and long dresses. Go girl!

Shake it all about

Which brings us to Little Richard's CD *Shake It All About*, recently released on Walt Disney Records (!) and aimed at preschoolers (!!) The genderbent gospel queen provides a new beat (and snappy new meaning) to songs like "She'll Be Comin' Around the Mountain" and "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Everyone's favorite screamer may

**Rosalie
Sorrels's
"hostile
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song" alone
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the price of
the album.**

have finally incorporated the two contradictory themes from his own life: the inspirational (in a version of "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands" that owes nothing to Wayne Newton) as well as the carnal ("You put your back side in/ You put your back side out/ You put your back side in/ And you shake it all about.") Throughout this CD, the high-pitched Richard sings full throttle, which probably will bother the kids not at all.

On the somewhat quieter and slightly less overt front, Michael Feinstein has *Pure Imagination* on Elektra. This is a compilation of child-friendly showtunes from Broadway and classic films,

including some obscure ones — which is what you'd expect from a man who used to be Ira Gershwin's secretary and still sees himself as an archivist-cum-crooner. So it's no surprise to find "Be Kind to Your Parents" from 1954's musical *Fanny*, or even an anachronistic tune "The Jitterbug" that was deleted from *Wizard of Oz*. But how about Groucho's near-naughty "Lydia the Tattooed Lady" (also by the sweet team of Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg)? And then there's Hans Conried's tres gay "Dressing Song" from *The 5000 Fingers of Dr. T*, with its campy lyrics by dear Dr. Seuss. (If you've never seen *The 5000 Fingers of Dr. T*, this surreal Seuss classic plays along with *The Wizard of Oz* this Saturday, December 18, at the Castro Theatre.)

To get back up-to-date, we return to the Disney label in its new incarnation, which likely has Walt twisting in his grave (or cryogenic chamber). Two all-star audio collections benefit the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. *For Our Children: The Concert* begins with Kriss Kross hip-hopping nursery rhymes and ends with Patti LaBelle. In between, lesbian crossover artist Melissa Etheridge does "The Green Grass Grew All Around," Salt-N-Pepa wail on "This Old Man," and the Bay Area's own Bobby McFerrin provides his brilliant seven-minute recreation of the entire *Wizard of Oz*. A non-concert disc also called *For Our Children* features more mainstream popsters like Dylan, Sting, Benatar, Babs, and Elton John.

On *Smilin' Island of Song* an urban Afro-American girlchild named Jenny pursues her goal of becoming a singer in Jamaica, where she's given a musical/cultural initiation by her good friend Mrs. B: this is Cedella Marley-Booker, mother of Bob Marley, joined by folk icon Taj Mahal, string multi-instrumentalist David Lindley and famed Trinidadian percussionist Kester Smith. This is an unmitigated pleasure ("You don't have to put gas, you don't have to put pollution in the air," Mother Marley laughs) that revisits Calypso roots ("Banana Boat Song") on the way to a reggae party ("Jah Wanna Dance") before coming to the sleepy-time song at the end of every kid's record. For junior rastas it is Bob Marley's classic, "Three Little Birds (Don't Worry About A Thing)." *Smilin' Island of Song*, like several

(Continued on next page)

LAWRENCE: A STORY



A Comic Life

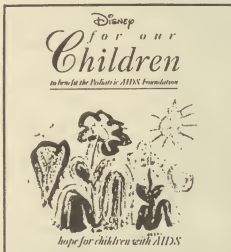
Jim Spinello, Jr. and his parents Jim and Jenny met with cartoonist Lynn Johnston (seated), creator of the strip *For Better or For Worse* at a signing of her work at the Cartoon Art Museum. Jim's own coming out occurred about the same time as Johnston's gay character, Lawrence (who is also tall, brunette and cute!).

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

(Continued from previous page)

other discs discussed here, is available from Music For Little People at Box 1460, Redway, California, 95560; or more quickly by calling 1-800-727-2233.

Dave Van Ronk, the '60s folkie and bluester, gets along "famously with children," but, as he admitted recently, he has "no idea what's going on between their ears. Still, they're all over me like a summer cold. Like cats, they've got me at a disadvantage." Evidence is found on his *Peter and the Wolf* with Uncle Moose and the Kazoo-O-phonic Jug Band, an album whereon jug band instruments replace the usual symphony orchestra on the Prokofiev classic, with the added bonus of Van Ronk's great gravelly renditions of "Teddy Bear's Picnic" and Mairzy Doats." Available from ALACAZAM! P.O. Box 429, Waterbury, Vermont 05676; 800/541-9904.



A final two thumbs up: "Pecos Bill" is narrated by Robin Williams — before he was a genie — with evocative Texas music by Ry Cooder (on Windham Hill's juvenile label). Rosalie Sorrels's wonderful album *Always a Lady* (on Philo) is a collection of complex parenting songs. Her "hostile baby-rocking song" alone is worth the price. As a bonus, "Apple of My Eye" is a coming-of-age gift for a pre-teen daughter who's still listening. Sorrels dedicates it "To my mother, Nancy Stringfellow, who taught me that a lady is someone who never does anything unintentionally vulgar." ▼

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Dykeotomy

(Continued from page 9)

dophiles in the world felt the same combination of oppression and pride as NAMBLA members so that they would form their own organization. I feel confident drawing that particular line for myself, but I wonder if there are times when I make false distinctions.

Too often I have allowed the temptation for acceptance to win out by distancing myself from some "unsavory" aspect of the community. It's my New Year's resolution to fight that temptation.

It's more than an inconvenience to be gay in this culture. President Clinton's failure to end discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the military demonstrates, at the very least, that an ally's good intentions have limits. We know our enemies want us silenced. And many others simply fear what they do not understand and, therefore, are all too happy to find a few familiar-looking queers to show that they can tolerate difference — as long as it's not too different.

I do not imagine an easy road to the society I'd like to see, but I know that I don't want Andrew Sullivan framing the discussion of my rights.

If we want change, we have to make change. And if the anti-gay agenda — as promoted by bigots and accommodated by a few self-satisfied queers who emerge as allies to those bigots — succeeds, it will be too late to go casting blame. ▼

CUAV Community Watch

Attention: All Men In the Community

by Greg Merrill

[Note: This column is the third of a four-part series of columns focusing on the needs and experiences of women in our community. The ideas behind the article were collaborated on by the male members of the CUAV staff.]

Like it or not, there are groups of people in this world who hold power and other groups that suffer as a result. As an obvious example, straight people have a kind of freedom that we do not and exercise it every single day of their lives, sometimes maliciously (such as gay-bashing) and sometimes without even knowing it (such as kissing on the street without fearing violence).

And let's face it: it can be totally annoying to see two straight people making out in "our" bars or in "our" neighborhood. This is mostly because a freedom is being exercised in our limited space — in our faces as it were — that we are denied everywhere else in the world. Evil as they may seem, those straight kissers probably have no intention of reminding us of our limited freedoms or of invading our spaces, but isn't that how many of us feel?

Have you noticed that religious "leaders" such as Lou Sheldon & Co. are accusing our community of violence against churches? When we protest the hatred they spread that manifests itself in violence against us, we are accused of being the violent ones. This is almost like the bigots who claim that we are actually a privileged group that is trying to force and enforce our values and "lifestyle" on everyone else. By naming our experiences of persecution and asserting our civil rights, we become distorted into straight-bashers and hatemongers. It is one of the oldest but most effective tactics of bigots everywhere, to deny that the group in question is actually oppressed and then to make them out to be the oppressors.

I wonder how your average Joe or Jo-Ann straight person would feel reading these words — not the straights you're friends with, but the ones you're not (the ones who think they don't know gay people). Some probably wouldn't finish reading because they don't care and don't have to. Period. Or perhaps they do care on a basic level and feel "bashed" because they haven't used their capacity for understanding enough to realize why we might legitimately feel these ways. Or maybe they were harassed by one gay person one time (maybe called a "breeder" or maybe even seriously harassed) and for some strange reason are stuck focusing on that experience. And then

again they may feel that straight people are victims, too, and that lesbian/gay dogma excludes straight people from any form of discrimination or victimization, ever. Of course, there is always the possibility that one hopes for — that the points made will be listened to, taken in context, not personalized (more than necessary), and respected.

In at least one way it is much easier to be a member of a victimized group than a member of the "majority." You don't have the guilt or responsibility of having freedoms that others don't have. Facing this can be very uncomfortable and painful, especially if you believe in the principles of freedom and equality.

As male members of this community, we are in the unique position of being members of a victimized group and a privileged group, simultaneously. We know what oppression looks, smells, tastes, and feels like, because we experience it every day. This can make it even more difficult to admit that we might have some responsibility for exposing others to these same types of experiences. But whether we like it or not, we have a kind of freedom that our women counterparts do not. And we exercise it every day, sometimes maliciously (such as referring to women as "bitches" or "cunts") and sometimes without even knowing it (such as taking up way-too-

much space on the dance floor of the only club in this city exclusively for women).

As responsible men — or even as irresponsible men

who just don't want to be hypocrites — we owe our sisters the same kind of RESPECT (as Aretha would say) as we expect from straight people who want to be our allies.

Understanding that women, as a group, have faced and continue to face obstacles that we do not, and that we, as a group, have benefited from this inequality in ways that we may not even recognize, does not seem unreasonable. And when women in this community raise their voices about injustice, they are not necessarily attacking us as individuals, are not necessarily man-haters or separatists, and are not necessarily negating the possibility that gay, bisexual, and transgender men also experience significant injustices. My guess is they probably just want their points of view to be listened to, taken in context, not personalized (more than necessary), and respected.

If we men could expect as much from ourselves in terms of women as we do from our straight allies, our community would be a safer and happier place. So that's my challenge to you, brothers ... and watch this space again in two weeks. ▼

CUAV is a non-profit agency that works to prevent hate violence against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender persons and promotes personal and community safety. The agency provides counseling, advocacy and referral to people who are bashed or who are battered in same sex domestic violence. For services or more information, call (415) 777-5500. If you are bashed or battered and need help, call our 24 hour Crisis Line at (415) 333-HELP. The agency's offices are located at 973 Market Street, Suite 500, San Francisco. ▼

NEIGHBORHOOD



HERO

Pictured: Back row (l to r): Jan Salas, Ruth Mordokowicz, Morgan Edlinson Colo; Front row (l to r): Eddie Agregado, Robert Spolomo.

Saluting Volunteers Who Make A Difference

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has approximately 150 active volunteers who staff its trilingual (English, Spanish and Filipino) Hotline. During a typical month, Hotline volunteers provide information and referrals for between 8,000 and 10,000 callers. It is our pleasure to honor these volunteers, and recognize the contribution they are making by responding with compassion and clarity to a wide range of questions and concerns about HIV and AIDS.

The AIDS Foundation Hotline was started in 1982. The volunteers pictured are representative of all the dedicated individuals who maintain the Hotline as a vibrant and critical community resource. For information on becoming a Hotline volunteer, contact the San Francisco AIDS Foundation at (415) 864-5855, Ext. 2000

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California Office of AIDS Shelves Controversial 'Telephone Triage'

by Karen Ocamb

The State Office of AIDS has decided to shelve a controversial "telephone triage" budget proposal that would have pre-screened callers inquiring about HIV testing. Under those new guidelines, callers would have been asked sexually explicit and other specific questions to determine whether they fell into a so-called high risk category and should therefore be given access to free, anonymous testing at state-funded clinics.

The proposal sparked an uproar among California AIDS service providers and community-based organizations, many of whom declared they would prefer to be in non-compliance and lose state reimbursements for testing and counseling than follow guidelines they deemed harmful to the public health and discriminatory towards youth, women and people of color.

The furor prompted Ken Topper, the key AIDS-policy legislative aide to State Senator David Roberti, to call for a December 10 meeting with State Office of AIDS Chief Wayne Sauseda and Ana Ramirez, the Office's Testing Program director.

The "very positive" meeting lasted two hours, says Topper, during which all options, including an alternative proposal submitted by L.A. County's HIV Counseling and

Testing Task Force, were discussed.

"We need more proposals such as this," Topper said after the meeting. "We need to hear from the providers on the front lines. So there's a call: give us more. There's a wonderful volume of expertise in the communities themselves."

However, the problem of paying for HIV testing and counseling programs still exist. "California has the largest testing component in the world. I didn't know that," Topper says. Anonymous testing is "so accessible that there is definitely a large number of repeat testing," which Topper and SOA say has to be curbed. The problem of repeat testers is partially a result of outdated messages.

"Years ago what we were told as gay men is that if you came up negative, you should test three times, six months apart before you could be assured that you were really negative," Topper says. Often people are "waiting to show or move into infection," when actually they continue to test negative.

What is "high risk?"

"Since then the message has changed. Now the message is: if you know you're at high risk, you should get tested. But what is 'high risk' needs to be clearly defined. We need to go where we see a high volume of people test-

ing positive who didn't even know they were at risk. We are failing the public health by not instituting significant education in the schools, for instance.

"There has to be a different intake process that will effectively screen out individuals who are not at risk while at the same time being able to not place public health at risk by using something so general a mechanism that we'd be missing people who would be positive and sending the wrong message to them that their behavior presently is okay," Topper still believes that "nothing can take away the value of face to face counseling."

The "good news" out of the meeting, says Topper, is that the proposed "telephone triage" will not go into effect January 1 as planned. Additionally, the controversy has "opened up positive dialogue between providers who spoke up and said 'we will no longer sit quiet and be told what to do' and the state which is more willing to work with them," especially under the new director of health services, Kim Belshe.

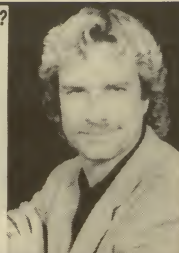
The "bad news," according to Topper, is that the money problem still exists, the AIDS budget is flat, and the situation will no doubt worsen: California faces a 1994-95 budget deficit of about five billion dollars, Topper says. "It's not looking pretty." ▼

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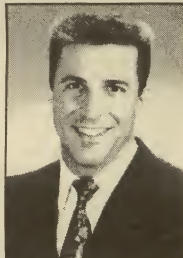
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Lesbians Sought for Carotene Health Study

by Dennis Conkin

Lesbian volunteers are being recruited for a forthcoming four-month, live-in study of the role of carotenes in maintaining good health, which the United States Department of Agriculture says is the most comprehensive study of the subject ever conducted. And besides being well-fed, the women who participate will be paid over \$30 a day.

Carotenes, of which the best-known is Beta-carotene are found in carrots, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, and other vegetables and fruits. During digestion, the human body often converts them into Vitamin A.

According to Beth Cook, a spokesperson for Bionetics Corporation, recent nutritional studies have led researchers to believe that carotenes may have important health benefits in their own right and do not serve purely as components of other

vitamins and nutrients.

"This research study is very important. It will look at the effect of carotenes in different systems in the body; the immune system; the menstrual cycles; dermatological status. There are a lot of carotenes and we want to know how essential they are nutritionally in order to establish a recommended daily allowance for the general public," Cook told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The study will be conducted by Dr. Betty Jane Burri, a USDA research scientist.

"In previous studies, carotene depletion appeared to cause significant changes in healthy young women," Burri said. "If these changes are substantiated by this study, we will be able to show that significant amounts of carotenes are required as part of a health adult diet."

The USDA seeks 12 healthy women between the ages of 22 and 40 for the study, set to begin in January,

1994.

Participants will be required to live in the Western Human Nutrition Research Center on the Presidio in San Francisco, and Volunteers will be paid \$3,675 for completing the 120-day live-in study.

"We try to make it as pleasant and as fun as possible," Cook said. "Each room has a television and a VCR, we have an activities director, and we have outings to museums, the beach, and the park. There is a library, and participants can have visitors once a week."

Cook says that the study excludes women who smoke cigarettes.

Participants will be given a health screening, including blood tests, in order to assess their health prior to entrance.

Women interested in volunteering for the carotene study should contact Bionetics Recruiting at (415) 556-2174, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ▼

Look Who's Talking

by Al Kielwasser

Rush Limbaugh — the full-time bigot who moonlights as a radio/TV talk show host — continues to fill the airwaves with his racist, homophobic, and sexist ranting. On the December 9th episode of his nightly television program, Limbaugh commented on a lesbian gathering to be held in Mississippi. Stating that this meeting would take place "on a pig farm," Limbaugh concluded: "All they are trying to do is propagate the race down there."

Coming from such a piggy little man, Limbaugh's comment is as ironic as it is hateful. And though he routinely makes homophobic statements like this, Limbaugh persistently argues that he is not a bigot ("All I am is a guy who tells the truth," he squealed on a recent Barbara Walters interview). Yet even Armed Forces Television (a propaganda service of the U.S. military) has resisted broadcasting Limbaugh because his shows are so unbalanced!

Local station KBHK broadcasts *The Rush Limbaugh Show* each evening during prime time. Official sponsors for the show are Lady Remington and Stetson Cologne. Share your thoughts on the thoughtless Limbaugh with each of these companies.

Write to Tom Spitz, KBHK-TV, 650 California Street, 7th Floor, SF, CA 94108, tel. 415-249-4444, fax 415-397-2841; Lady Remington, Remington Products, Inc., 60 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604; Stetson/Coty, Inc., New York, NY 10017.

No light at the Grove Sun

The "Phobe of the Month Award" goes to M. Gerald Stone, the editor of one of Oklahoma's oldest newspapers, *The Grove Sun* (established in 1898). In his editorial for December 5th, entitled "Faggots Have Day," Stone mocked World AIDS Day, stating: "Didn't it make you proud to see the faggots and queers of the world having their day in the sun Wednesday, celebrating national 'I've caused the latest holocaust' day?"

Stone goes on to ask: "Does this say it's okay to defy normality and have homosexual relations, contact [sic] AIDS and single-handedly create one of the worst diseases known to mankind? I say no!"

Providing further proof that he lacks a brain stem, Stone argues: "It is a known fact that sex between males is the main cause of the HIV virus. If these faggots insist on this lifestyle after knowing the odds of getting AIDS, let them reap the benefits. Don't come crying to the government and the taxpayers."

A man of compassion, Stone concludes his editorial by reminding readers: "I feel sorry for the innocent victims who contract AIDS through blood transfusion or heterosexual relations or any other similar circumstance."

For many of us, Grove, Ok-

lahoma may seem like a million miles away. But this kind of bigotry must be challenged. Send letters (you should probably use small words) to: M. Gerald Stone, Editor, *The Grove Sun*, 14 West Third St., Grove, OK 74344, tel. 918-786-2228, fax 918-786-2156.

New President at KQED

KQED has a new president, Mary Bitterman. Bitterman, who will be in charge of KQED's radio and television operations, has stated that she intends to increase KQED's commitment to local programming. Historically, KQED has had a less-than-stellar record of service to the lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities of the Bay Area.

Welcome Bitterman to the Bay Area and express your hope that she will vigorously support regular, prime-time programming by and about the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities, which comprise a substantial portion of the audience for public broadcasting in the Bay Area.

Contact Mary Bitterman, President, KQED, Inc., 2601 Mariposa St., SF, CA 94110-1400, tel. 415-864-2000, fax 415-553-2456.

Media Briefs

Speaking Out is a newsletter intended to "address the needs and recognize the contributions of sexual minority students, teachers, parents, and alumni" in boarding high schools. For more information, contact Al Chase, *Speaking Out*, 2300 Market St., No. 6, S.F., CA 94114.

Chelsea House Publishers has issued its 1993-94 catalog, which includes two new series for and about lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth. The first series, "Issues of Gay and Lesbian Life," includes 25 books on such topics as AIDS, African-American lesbian and gay culture, and coming out. The second series, "The Lives of Notable Gay Men and Lesbians," includes 30 biographical books. For more information, contact Chelsea House, 300 Park Avenue South, New York, NY, 10010, tel. 800-848-BOOK.

The first issue of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* has just been published by Gordon and Breach. The new, interdisciplinary journal offers "scholarship, criticism, and commentary that will bring a queer perspective to bear on any and all topics touching on sex and sexuality." *GLQ* is edited by Carolyn Dinshaw (U.C. Berkeley) and David Halperin (M.I.T.). For more information, contact Gordon and Breach Publishers, PO Box 786, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276, tel. 800-545-8398, fax 212-645-2459.

A new bimonthly publication, *YOUTH Magazine*, is for, by, and about lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth. Based in Washington, DC, the magazine features articles written by youth across the country. For more details, contact *YOUTH Magazine*, PO Box 34215, Washington, DC 20043-4215, tel. 202-234-3562. ▼

We must confront homophobia in order to cure it! To notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, write to GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. Call our main office at 415-861-4588; fax, 415-861-4893; South Bay, 408-235-0229; East Bay, 510-273-9146; North Bay, 415-647-3055. ▼



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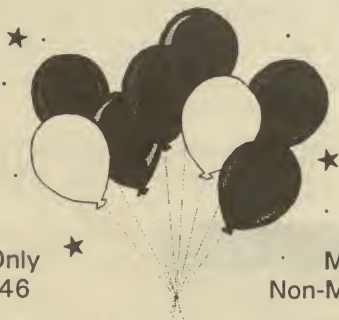
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Woo Enters Secretary of State Race Against Gay Candidate

by Karen Ocamb

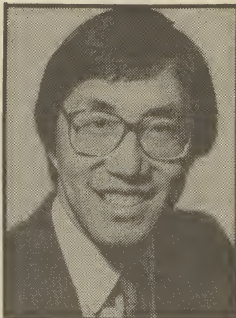
On Wednesday, December 8, former Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Woo announced that he is joining the race for California secretary of state. Openly gay deputy secretary of state Tony Miller is among those against whom Woo will be competing for the Democratic primary spot this June.

Although Woo, 42, had considerable backing from the lesbian and gay community in his unsuccessful November race for the city's mayor, he was told early on that the gay community will back Miller.

"I told him I felt that there would be very strong community support for Tony Miller," said ANGLE's Dr. Scott Hitt, who was Woo's campaign co-chair from the gay community. "I told him not to expect a lot of financial or voter support from the gay and lesbian community, which according to the *L.A. Times*, was one of the strongest voting blocs for him." Hitt said he doesn't think the gay community will "be divided" on Miller's candidacy.

Miller already endorsed

"It's time the gay community elected one of its own," ANGLE member and Democratic Party honcho Jean



Mike Woo

ays around the state and news stories in gay and political papers, Miller still lacks Woo's instant name recognition. Woo garnered 46 percent of the city-wide vote and he pulled in contributions from over 9,000 people nationwide, according to a report in the *Times*. Woo spent \$6 million unsuccessfully trying to defeat GOP candidate Richard Riordan.

Woo has "some regrets"

Not all of Woo's name recognition is good: many Angelinos were turned off by the brutal mudslinging against now-Mayor Riordan. At his Wednesday news conference, Woo said he had "some regrets about some of the negative tone, some of the mudslinging that took place, not only from my side but also from the other side during the campaign." He said he also regrets the fact "that I may have played some part in helping to get people turned off about politics."

But, Woo said, he does expect his high Councilmember profile as promoter of the city's ethics and campaign reform ordinances to help him as he seeks the secretary of state job. If elected, he plans to push for similar reforms on a statewide level. "The name of the game is to find a way to reduce the influence of private interests in campaigns, that is to reduce the undue influence of money in politics," Woo said.

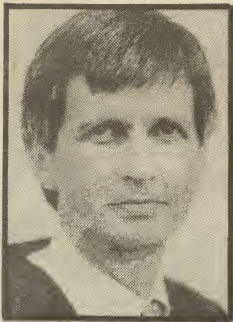
Miller, 45, who has been Eu's deputy and virtually run the office for 12 years, is no stranger to issues of ethics and campaign spending reform. Prior to being the secretary's chief legal counsel, and then chief deputy, Miller was appointed in 1975 to the state's Fair Political Practices

Commission. Eu credits Miller with helping implement the Political Reform Act and the federal Voting Rights Act.

Despite Woo's highly publicized entrance into the race, he is not necessarily the front-runner, according to civil rights attorney John Duran, 34, himself an openly gay candidate for the state Assembly. Duran points out that Assemblymember Jackie Speier has greater statewide recognition. And if state Assemblymember Gwen Moore pulls out to run for state Senator Diane Watson's seat — assuming Watson lands a diplomatic post, as expected — Speier is expected to lock up the women's vote. If Moore stays in, she's expected to pull the African-American vote. Woo's coalition of support during his mayoral race came primarily from the Asian-American, African-American, and gay communities.

A gay voting bloc?

Although Duran is expected to create a gay voting bloc locally, gay political pundits do not expect that to transfer to Miller's statewide race. However, Hitt, points out, "the sum is greater than its parts" and the gay community's enthusiasm generated by two openly gay qualified candidates might boost volunteers and financial support for both. ▼



Tony Miller

O'Leary told the *Bay Area Reporter* December 12. Miller, who is deemed so qualified for the job that he has already been endorsed by his popular boss, California Secretary of State March Fong Eu, and the national Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, is the first openly gay man to ever run for statewide office.

However, despite his for-

Seattle City Council Grills Cop About Gay March Appearance

United Press International

SEATTLE — Seattle Police Chief-designate Norman Stamper has been grilled about — and defended — marching in a gay rights parade in San Diego, where he has been on the police force 27 years.

The issue was raised on Thursday, December 9, during a confirmation hearing by the Seattle City Council. Stamper, 49, was nominated November 30 by Mayor Norm Rice to become police chief of Washington state's largest city.

When asked by council members why he participated in a recent gay rights march in San Diego, where he is executive assistant police chief, Stamper said it helped him gain insights into how to improve police relations with lesbians and gays.

"To not understand what police are exposed to on the streets and with one another is to have no hope of influencing the rank-and-file of this or any police department," Stamper told the City Council. His appearance in the parade also demonstrated police support for all San Diegans, regardless of sexual preference, he said. ▼

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Community

The Market's Up On Upper Market

*Retailers Say This Could
Be the Best Holiday Season Ever*

by Dolores Guerrero

Holiday shoppers are generally festive, and are spending money this season, according to several Upper Market retail store proprietors.

"They're upbeat and shopping," said John Brickett, owner of Set Your Table at 2258 A Market Street. "But, in my business, I get a lot of repeat customers because I have a specialty product."

Set Your Table, which offers fine china and collectibles, has a popular registry service available for customers — gay or straight — who are tying the proverbial knot or celebrating a special occasion.

"People get married and are having commitment ceremonies. I don't really rely on the tourist trade or walk-ins: it helps, but my business is oriented to specialty customers."

Brickett told the *Bay Area Reporter* that it's impossible for him to judge whether the economy is on an upswing by shopping patterns.

Off Your Dot on the mark

Lisa Davies of Off Your Dot, which sells art furniture and one-of-a-kind decorative items by more than 70 artists, including pottery, hand-blown glass, hand-made candles, picture frames, boxes, screens, and sculpture at affordable prices, says her shop is having its best season ever.

"It's better than we ever



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Also on upper Market, Ixia provides other-worldly arrangements of fecund florals for window browsers.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

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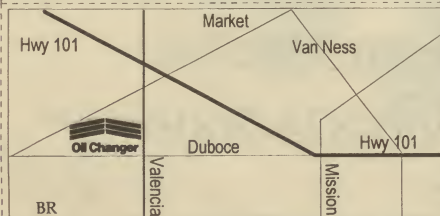
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Fir life

The DIFFA Tree, on display at Mike Furniture at 2142 Fillmore Street, is for sale, all to benefit AIDS organizations.



Gump and fine art at Earthtones

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

imagined. People are really spending their money; they seem to be in a better mood. People are not buying just one item, but three or four. The last two weeks have been our busiest weeks in the history of the store," she said.

Davies said that there are a couple of factors that may be responsible for the upswing in spending and customers' moods.

"Last season, the elections had just happened. With the year gone by, people seem to be happier," she said.



et, is laden with donated decorations for

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

fine jewelry, along with metaphysical books, compact discs, tapes, and other items.

"It doesn't seem as dark, if you will, this year," Caruso told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "People are interested in gifts that express meaning, and they are making multiple purchases. We're kind of like a one-stop shop," he said.

Crystal Way frequently donates a portion of its monthly proceeds to a local AIDS or lesbian and gay service group as a community service.

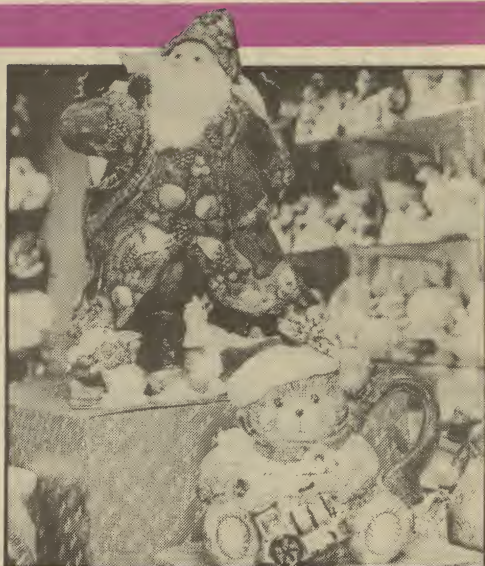
No gloom in Earthtones

Omar, the owner of Earthtones, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he, too, finds customers in a good mood.

"They do seem very upbeat this year. People seem to be just plain tired of doom and gloom and have had enough," he said.

Known as a "baby Gumps," Earthtones, at 2323 Market Street, stocks fine but very reasonably priced gift items, decorative and home accessories, crystal, silver, and other one-of-a-kind retail products.

"People aren't buying ex-



Holiday ceramics at Set Your Table

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

pensive gifts. They seem to be staying with more moderately priced gifts," he said.

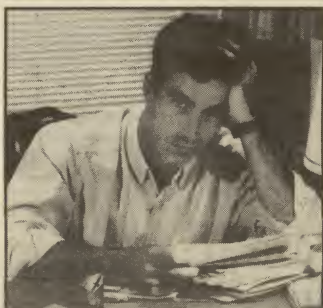
Omar said that shoppers' spending patterns may not reflect a major change in the economy or be related to a

new administration in Washington, D.C.

"But, there has been a slight change for the better. People on the whole seem to be doing a little better," Omar said. ▼

Crystal Way not as dark

The trend toward multiple purchases is also noted by Paul Caruso, owner of Crystal Way at 2335 Market, which stocks quality crystal and gemstone merchandise and



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This study will recruit participants whose T-cell counts are between 200-500, and who have taken AZT for at least 4 months but no longer than 1 year. No prior ddI or ddC use is allowed. There are also limited spaces for participants who have never taken any anti-retroviral drugs.

For more information about this and other studies contact Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

Community News

Buttino

(Continued from page 1)

cooperative” during an investigation into his sexual activities after it received an anonymous note from a tipster saying that Buttino was gay.

The identity of the individual — who forwarded Buttino's 1989 response to a personal ad in a Southern California gay newspaper to his aged parents and then to FBI officials in Washington, D.C. — was never determined.

Buttino was questioned about the incident by FBI supervisors at the San Diego FBI field office, but denied he knew the identity of the tipster.

Ordered to submit to a formal investigation, including a polygraph, Buttino acknowledged that he had written the response to the personal ad, and that he was gay.

His top secret security clearance was revoked and he was ordered terminated by FBI officials, who said that he was vulnerable to coercion and lacked candor — and expressed concern that he might belong to “a secret homosexual society.”

The government was embarrassed by the latter allegation when Buttino testified in court on December 8, to the amusement of reporters and observers, that the only gay societies or groups he belonged to at the time were gay wrestling clubs.

The FBI's defense of its investigation, and its insistence that it did not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation was seriously damaged by the testimony of Dana Tillson, a 32-year-old lesbian, who is a highly regarded private investigator in San Francisco.

Tillson applied for a job as a special agent in the San Francisco FBI field office in 1987, and scored extremely high on interviews and tests, but after she was called into the FBI office for a special interview where her sex practices were evaluated, she was told she was “not competitive” for the job.

San Francisco FBI special agent Tom Purcell admitted under oath that the interview into Tillson's sex practices was ordered by FBI security officials in Washington, D.C. and also testified that the field office was instructed to conduct the sex practices interview but not to ask Tillson directly about her sexual orientation.

Under the settlement agreement, Tillson will be offered a job as a special agent within the Bureau when the current hiring freeze is lifted in October, 1994.

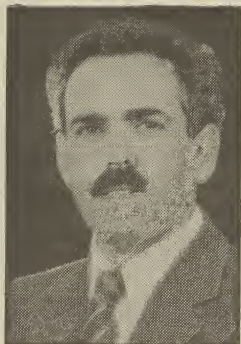
“I'm excited. It's been a very long week. I've spoken with Frank at length and we're both just real pleased that the policy affects all current lesbian and gay employees and all future applicants. Neither of these settlement groups will have to experience further discrimination,” Tillson said.

Although the policy change ordered by Reno still allows investigation into an applicant's character and judgement related to sexual conduct, the law will be equally applied to homosexuals and heterosexuals.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund attorney Evan Wolfson says the concern of some within the gay community, that conservative

A B.A.R. Exclusive: Frank Buttino Speaks

by Dennis Conkin



Former FBI agent Frank Buttino.

“My life will never be quite the same,” said former FBI agent Frank Buttino, after his class action job bias lawsuit settlement opened the closet doors for current and future lesbian and gay G-men. “But, to tell you the truth, I think it's going to be better after this ordeal.”

“I've become a better person, more compassionate and understanding. It really was a humbling experience,” Buttino told the *Bay Area Reporter* on Monday, December 13.

Although Buttino has had the usual offers of Hollywood movie deals and tabloid talk show appearances, he said that he's not really interested in being a media star.

“I'm not planning on going on talk shows and I haven't given radio interviews. I want to return to a normal life. I want out of the limelight. I really am a private person,” he said.

The financial settlement he received from the FBI leaves him “very pleased,” and Buttino now considers the case closed and doesn't really want to keep on discussing it.

“It's over,” he said. “This has consumed all of my life for the last five and a half years and it's time for me to move on,” he said.

Buttino has had a couple offers of college teaching positions in the criminal justice field, and an offer of employment from a law enforcement agency, but plans to take some time to decide what he wants to do.

“I will continue to be involved in the gay community and plan to stay in San Diego,” he told the *B.A.R.* “I want to use what I've learned in my experience to do some good.”

Pleased about Tillson

Buttino said that he is especially pleased that the FBI will hire Dana Tillson, the 32-year-old lesbian private eye who was rejected for a position following her 1987 application.

“She's a terrific person. Very outgoing, intelligent

savvy. She's handled herself very, very well. She's got all the right things going for her and she will make a terrific agent,” he predicted.

Buttino said he thought the coverage of his trial in the gay press was “helpful.”

“But I wouldn't say it was wonderful,” he added. “The *Bay Area Reporter* was incredible: it and the San Diego papers were the best.”

Buttino said that he was surprised that there hadn't been more national gay coverage in the beginning of the case, when he was trying to get the information out that he was seeking to find more FBI agents and applicants who had been discriminated against, but said that as his case got to trial, “the coverage was good.”

And, although Buttino acknowledged that his out of court settlement was a necessary compromise, he said that he really wants to close “this chapter” of his life and move on. And although the private Buttino didn't elaborate at length, he made it known that a promising new chapter of his life has opened recently.

“There are no coincidences in life. People come into your life for a purpose — and someone came into my life about a month ago. He was there for me when I was running on empty, and has filled a void that I've felt for four or five years,” Buttino said. ▼

and right wing officials at the FBI may use gay or lesbian employees' sexual conduct as a pretext to keep the agency free of homosexuals now that sexual orientation discrimination has been banned, is unfounded.

Buttino testified that the only gay societies or groups he belonged to were gay wrestling clubs.

“That's an unnecessary fear outside of the military. I respect the fear but I don't think the Department of Jus-

tice is pulling a fast one. That doesn't obviate the need for vigilance, but I don't think that's what's happening,” Wolfson said.

The military can discriminate against sexually active gay people because of laws in the Uniformed Code of Military Justice that ban gay sex, according to Congressman Barney Frank.

Frank said that he had been working with officials in the Clinton administration “for several months” to develop and issue policies protecting lesbian and gays from sexual orientation bias in the federal government.

“I feel terrific. I'm very happy,” said Frank. “It's a major change in policy.”

“I saw Janet Reno last Tuesday at the Justice Department. I thanked her because I'd been harassing her about changing the policy. She said she told me she would do it, that it just took time,” Frank told the *Bay Area Reporter*. ▼

Heterosexual Former Fundy Works for Gay Rights in Oregon

by Jim Emerson

Most of the news about the interaction between gays and straights in Oregon has focused on the Oregon Citizens Alliance's attempts to overturn gay rights laws there, which might explain why so many people are amazed to learn a straight woman with a Christian fundamentalist background has become the owner, editor-in-chief, and publisher of the gay and lesbian newspaper in Portland.

"The irony is a matter of circumstances," laughs Jerilyn Buckley, who began taking over the day-to-day responsibilities of running the *Alternative Connection*, a monthly newspaper with a circulation of 14,000 copies, last summer.

"I'm straight and I'm upfront about it with people to avoid any misconceptions," says Buckley. She says she is no stranger to prejudice, having experienced misplaced homophobia from straights and heterophobia from gays.

Buckley gradually found herself taking over complete responsibilities for publishing the *Alternative Connection* after one of the co-publishers, Elwood Johnson, was stricken with a series of AIDS-related illness, requiring the full time care of his lower Ray Southwick, the other co-publisher.

Buckley had been working at the paper more than two years as a general manager, handling most of the administrative and financial work. Additional editorial and later some advertising responsibilities were thrust upon her regular workload starting in the early part of summer because of Johnson's condition. Advertising responsibilities soon followed, leaving only Buckley to manage virtually everything.



A devoted convert: publisher and activist Jerilyn Buckley

"I want to point out to straight people that there are gay people who are just like them," she says.

Buckley, who is 47 and never married, acknowledges she occasionally meets gays who don't like the idea of a heterosexual woman running the *Alternative Connection*; some resistance has even come from within the paper's own staff. "My first reaction was shock," admits Eddie VanBrocklin, a longtime production assistant. "I was thinking, 'how could this straight person put together a gay publication?' but as it turns out it works."

Not everyone is so sanguine. A local group of "closeted gay journalists" working for mainstream papers who meet regularly to discuss workplace homophobia let Buckley know she wasn't welcome at their meetings because of her heterosexuality. "I wasn't too surprised," she says.

"My philosophy is that people are people and everyone has a right to be accepted for who they are," Buckley says. "I'm as comfortable with my heterosexuality as my gay and lesbian friends are comfortable in homosexuality."

"She gives us insights on how the straight community feels," VanBrocklin says. "I think a lot of people look at the paper more closely because there's a broader range of opinions now."

"This is a happy little marriage," he continues. "She lives one life and we live another, but we can still live together."

"Sexual orientation should make no difference in the workplace," Buckley says.

Buckley's involvement with the gay community began several years before she joined the *Alternative Connection*, as a volunteer with a charity that supports people with AIDS. Even before that, however, she was a staunch supporter of gay rights and disgusted by church politics that promote bigotry. The prejudice, and the demands of absolute conformity, she heard preached as a young adult backfired and turned Buckley into a liberal free-thinker.

"I was raised as a Christian fundamentalist, but now I have difficulties with organized religion that supports discrimination when people don't follow the dogma," she says.

Her friends and family — with the exception of her mother — are supportive of her work, she says. ▼



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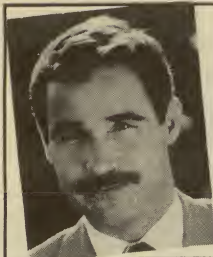
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Once it became obvious, that Buckley was the de facto publisher, she decided to assume the position for real, and to line up the funding that would her enable her to buy the *Alternative Connection*. "Running this paper isn't going to be a temporary thing," she says.

Educating heterosexuals

Now that she has become the owner of the *Alternative Connection*, Buckley hopes to change its style, partially to attract straight readers "who could pick it up and really learn something about the gay community," she says, but without sacrificing the newspaper's advocacy journalism style or gay perspectives.



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National News

Mississippi Town Plots To Oust Lesbian Residents

by Kimberly Griffin

Brenda and Wanda Henson's dream of turning a 120-acre former pig farm in rural Mississippi into a safe retreat for women has begun to turn into a nightmare.

A meeting held by the Christian Ministers Association in Ovett, Mississippi, last Monday attracted 250 people to begin plotting ways to drive the Hensons' Sister Spirit organization off their land in rural Jones County, about an hour off the Gulf Coast. For a town with a population of only about 400, the turnout was nothing less than scary to the Hensons, two lesbians who purchased the land last July to build a permanent space for the annual Gulf Coast Women's Music Festival and to open a year-round feminist education center.

But the Hensons, who had a commitment ceremony ten years ago and changed their surnames to Brenda's birth name five years ago, were already scared before the meeting in Ovett was held. The trouble began after a Sister Spirit newsletter containing information about the organization—which operates several food banks and offers a myriad of support services primarily to women on the Gulf Coast—was stolen from their mailbox and distributed throughout the town. The conflict turned violent when they found their three-month-

old puppy shot in the stomach and hung over their mailbox, along with maxi-pads, on November 8.

"Then I knew something was up," said Brenda Henson, executive director of Sister Spirit. "I got the message."

In the following weeks, several trespassers with guns

nizations. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force sent letters last week to Attorney General Janet Reno, the Community Relations Service and the FBI requesting immediate intervention. According to NGLTF executive director Peri Jude Radecic, CRS officials are monitoring the situation and agreed that it is potentially violent. However, because sexual orientation is not one of the grounds on which CRS can get involved between the two sides, the agency cannot directly mediate the dispute without an order from Reno.

Jones County Sheriff Maurice Hooks said that they would "protect them folks like we protect anybody else."

Henson said they are hopeful that the FBI will intervene, but in the meantime they have no plans of giving in to pressure from the anti-gay residents. "We live here now, and it is our desire to reach out into the community," she said.

The women started fundraising four years ago to purchase the land and were ecstatic when they found the farm in Ovett, which was perfect for their plans. With several buildings, a hill-top site overlooking a ravine and a price tag of only \$60,000, it was just right. "The place is so beautiful, and it just makes me angry, angry, angry," Brenda Henson said. "If we were any other minority in the world, they wouldn't have had that kind of meeting."

The Hensons, both of

have come onto their property, saying they were hunting. One of the most recent incidents occurred December 4-5, during a lesbian conference that was held on the property. Two drunken men got their pick-up truck stuck at the end of their driveway, Henson said, and one of them—carrying a gun—walked up to where the women were; the women surrounded him and escorted him off the property.

"Some nights when there's only five or six of us, it gets real scary," Henson said.

The Sister Spirit volunteers all have guns now, and they've put up barbed wire along the front entrance to the property. The federal Community Relations Service is monitoring the situation, and the women are hoping to raise enough money to fence in the rest of the property.

They're also hoping to secure legal counsel as well as an accountant to better prepare for the battle with the residents of Ovett that appears to lie ahead.

At the meeting last week, homophobia ran rampant, as did ideas to drive the women off their land.

Clint Knight, an Ovett resident, said he feared for the safety of his 11-year-old daughter, according to the Hattiesburg American newspaper. "These people can pick up our little girls and take them to this place and do whatever they want to," Knight said at the meeting.

Paul Jones of the Southern Baptist Convention recommended that the county's Board of Supervisors use laws governing unincorporated land to stop the women's plans; another resident suggested infiltrating the camp with men.

Charles Miller, Jones County administrator, said the board of supervisors is not involved in the community members' organizing. "Right now the board's position is that it's not really anything of their concern," Miller said. "I hope this thing dies down. I think they're making a lot of bad feelings on both sides that don't need to be there."

The ministers' association next meeting is planned for January 4, when they will discuss further options.

The Sister Spirit members are determined to stay on the land, and are hoping to garner support from local and national gay and lesbian orga-

**The conflict
 turned
 violent when
 the lesbians
 found their
 three-month-
 old puppy
 shot in the
 stomach and
 hung over
 their mailbox
 along with
 maxi-pads.**

whom are working on doctorate degrees in adult education, had hoped to open a food bank on the new land and to operate a literacy program for women. "This area is so poor," Henson said, "And one-third of Mississippi women can't read and write."

Henson said they're still sticking by their plans, but she's afraid of what obstacles will be thrown in their way by the organizers in town. Sister Spirit is up for review soon by the IRS after four years as a non-profit organization, and she thinks the town may try to cook up a technicality to "screw them."

"This is an open conspiracy to deny me my civil rights," Henson said. "We just need people to come and walk this walk with us."

To offer assistance to Camp Sister Spirit, call (601) 344-1411, or write to P.O. Box 12, Ovett, Mississippi, 39464. ▼

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British Doctors Make Breast Cancer Breakthrough

United Press International

LONDON — Doctors at London's Royal Marsden Hospital have reported excellent results from a pilot study into a new breast cancer treatment that uses a portable pump to administer chemotherapy drugs 24 hours a day.

The pilot study, to be followed by a three-year larger-scale trial, "encouraged us to believe that using a conventional anti-tumor drug administered in this new way can significantly improve the effectiveness of treatment," said Dr. Ian Smith, a cancer re-

searcher at the hospital.

Researchers hope the new technique could become a standard treatment offered to breast cancer patients instead of surgery, if future results continue to be good.

"The results we have seen so far are quite spectacular," said Val Speechly, a senior patient education nurse at the Royal Marsden.

16 percent tumor-free

Of the 48 women with breast tumors who took part in the pilot study, 70 percent experienced shrinking of tumors, and in 16 percent of the

cases no tumor was detected after treatment.

Large-scale patient trials using the continuous infusion chemotherapy technique have just started at the Royal Marsden. Final confirmation of the treatment's effectiveness is expected in five years, once the results of the three-year trials have been evaluated.

Assistant researcher Hazel Robertshaw said patients using the new method are monitored closely during treatment, and removed from the test and treated by other methods if they fail to respond positively. ▼

CDC Sponsors Condom Ads — Finally

by Rene Astudillo

For the first time since the onset of the AIDS epidemic, federal government-sponsored television and radio advertisements will focus on latex condoms as an effective way to prevent the spread of HIV. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is about to launch a prevention marketing initiative specifically encouraging sexually active people under the age of 25 to use condoms.

One of the TV ads, titled "Automatic," features an animated condom that hurries over to a bed where two people are having sex. The message is that since condoms are not automatic, it is up to people to use them correctly every time they have sex. The light and humorous approach of the ad was well received by focus groups assembled to test the effectiveness of the public service announcement — or PSA in broadcast lingo.

Another PSA, "Turned Down," has radio and television versions in both Spanish and English. Each has a young woman asking a young man if he has a condom and refusing to have sex when he says he forgot. The CDC says that not only does the PSA stress the importance of not having sex without a condom, it also models refusal skills for young women.

One of the radio spots that is part of this new marketing initiative, "Microphone," asks listeners to imagine that the announcer's voice is HIV and that a condom over the microphone protects the listener from being infected with the virus. This radio spot is being produced in two formats: Martin Lawrence from Fox Television's sitcom *Martin*, is featured in the one for urban contemporary radio stations while the other, intended for middle-of-the-road radio stations, features Tony award-winning actor Jason Alexander, who plays George on NBC's *Seinfeld*.

"Naked," another radio spot, features Anthony Kiedis, lead singer for the Red Hot Chili Peppers, talking about the different places he's been naked: on stage, on magazine covers, when he was born, and when he has sex. "But being naked doesn't have to mean being 'exposed,'" Kiedis says, "if you use a condom every time you have sex."



Seinfeld's Jason Alexander rubbers up. (Photo: Karen Ocambo)

Three different targets

According to the CDC the new ads are designed to encourage young people who are sexually active but who don't always use latex condoms, to use them correctly and consistently; those who are sexually active but don't use latex condoms or who haven't tried condoms, to try them; and those who are sexually active and correctly use latex condoms every time, to continue the healthy behavior.

According to the latest CDC figures, there are over 300,000 U.S. AIDS cases, and more than one million American are now infected with HIV. AIDS is the leading cause of death for women in the same age group. For young people from age 15-24, AIDS is the sixth leading cause of death.

The CDC's decision to come out with the condom ads was based on numerous studies indicating that the proper use of latex condoms can prevent HIV transmission, and that promoting condom use does not necessarily result in increased sexual activity. A World Health Organization (WHO) review of 19 sex education programs found that there was no evidence that sex education leads to earlier or increased sexual activity in young people. In fact, six studies

showed that sex education programs actually lead to a delay or decrease in sexual activity. Ten studies showed that education programs increased safer sex practices among young people who were already sexually active.

To reinforce the alternative message of sexual abstinence as the most effective way to stop HIV, the CDC also plans to use two previously produced TV spots encouraging people to delay or abstain from sex.

Bill and Hillary Clinton are the spokespersons for the abstinence campaign. ▼

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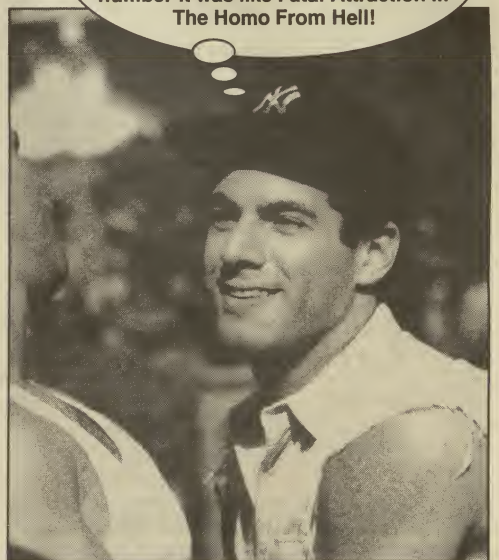
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Obituaries

Mark David Batti

Jan. 30, 1958–Nov. 19, 1993



After a difficult year of declining health and fighting AIDS, Mark's body was no longer a suitable home for his indomitable spirit.

Born in New Haven, Conn., Mark attended Hamden public schools and moved to San Francisco to attend UC Berkeley. After receiving a B.A. in French, he worked for the PS Restaurant and Kaiser Hospital before returning to school to get his teaching credential from SF State. He worked for the SF Unified School District as a gifted, sensitive and creative teacher of handicapped children.

Mark loved music, and studied piano at the Community Music Center and voice at SF State. He was an aerobics instructor at the Central YMCA and worked out at many gyms over the years. Mark was a bronze medalist in the triathlon during the SF Gay Games in 1986. He loved the out-of-doors, camping, beaches and travel. He was an excellent cook, and was well-versed in many fields, including medicine, horticulture, and psychology. Mark excelled at whatever he undertook and

lived his life with a flair and panache uniquely his own, and a penchant for high drama.

Mark leaves behind his parents, Rita and Joe; his brother, Art; and many friends, neighbors and associates who will miss him deeply. A gathering of friends and scattering of ashes will be held at Pt. Reyes on his birthday, January 30. To attend, please call Steven Baratz at (415) 863-3353. Gifts in his memory may be made to the SF AIDS Foundation. ▼

John Thomas Burch

Aug. 20, 1933–Dec. 6, 1993



Our gentle Leo is gone. If there is a better state, John is doubtlessly there by now, being royally welcomed by friends and pets who preceded him.

John was a beloved member of the Burch-Barrier-Frenette families, which extend coast to coast. After a long and exhausting struggle with AIDS, he died at Garden Sullivan Hospital, where he received lots of TLC from his dedicated staff. His brother Phil, nephew David, and longtime partner Ray were with him daily, as was his beloved friend Ghislain until work forced him to return to

Quebec. John was lucid and articulate almost to the end.

John remained at home until his last hospitalization through the help of VNH (thanks Jeannie and others) and UCSF Infusion Service (thanks Dennis, John and others), not to mention his physicians Lawrence Goldyn and Charles McDonald. At John's request there will be no funeral service.

John was an extraordinarily sweet man with a lively sense of humor, wide interests and a great love of life. The family dogs, Gretchen and Garibaldi, thought he was a great petter and marvelous to lean against whenever they could catch him in repose.

You remain alive in our hearts and memories, John. ▼

Wayne Buidens

1949–1993



Wayne Buidens, 44, creator of *What Ever Happened to B.B. Jane?* and *Jungle Red* and co-founder of Artful Circle Theatre in San Francisco, passed away at his home in Treasure Island, Florida, Sunday morning, December 12.

Buidens and his lover, David Bussey, who died in March of this year, moved to San Francisco in the summer of 1991 after both were diagnosed HIV positive. The immediately began work on the production of *B.B. Jane*, which opened in January 1992 and went on to run a phenomenal eight months at the Victoria Theatre.

During the summer of 1992, Buidens and Bussey, along with partners Mark Sargent and Richard Winchester, produced *Psycho the Musical* and, in December of that year, opened Artful Circle Theatre in an old SF Fire Department horse stable with the holiday offering *Christmas With the Crawfords*. His last show was the hit musical *Jungle Red*, in which he did set design.

Buidens was an art teacher in the Midwest for 20 years and, in Chicago, was co-founder of the award-winning Circle Theatre.

Theatre was Wayne's great passion; he worked in virtually every aspect of it. He directed everything from opera to drama to cabaret. A gifted artist, he did set design and construction, as well as the poster design for most of his shows. He also acted in many shows, and wrote and produced several others.

Until his illness prevented him from working on a regular basis, he was a popular bartender at Headquarters in the Castro. Wayne Buidens touched the lives of many people in the Bay Area with his courage and indomitable spirit. Nothing was impossible to him. He will be remembered for his incredible energy, his sense of humor, his ability to make things happen, and for his belief in his fellow human beings and his ability to inspire in them a belief in themselves. There will be a memorial gathering for Wayne at Artful Circle Theatre, 47 Waller, Sunday, December 19, at 9 p.m. ▼

Gary Blake Conaway

Aug. 18, 1947–Aug. 15, 1993

Gary Blake Conaway, 45, a former longtime resident of San Francisco, passed away on August 15, 1993, in Los Angeles, California. He is survived by his mother, Pauline Conaway, Clovis, California; three sisters, Betty Kennedy, Dinuba, California; Delores Marrush, Woodland, California; and Karen Doris, Clovis, California; daughter, Cristin of Cameron Park, California; four nieces; and two nephews. Gary is loved and missed by so many whose lives he touched. Private services were held in San Francisco on October 28, 1993. ▼

Justin Scott Davy aka Danny Trivette

Jan. 1, 1949–Dec. 12, 1993



Justin was called to his final resting place on December 12, 1993 after a six-month battle with numerous AIDS-related illnesses in Berkeley, Calif. He is survived by his lover, Andre, and his beloved parents, Tish and David Gregory, of Bradford, Tenn. In addition, Justin leaves behind three brothers, Randy of Kentucky and David and

Dennis of Indianapolis, and numerous other relatives and friends, all of whom he loved very much.

Justin was a free spirit who loved nature and culture as much as he loved people. He always had a smile on his face, a kind word for everyone, and was always there in time of need. He had passionate beliefs and always remained true to his convictions. His friends were friends for life.

He touched everyone in a different, special way. His old hippie days were always remembered with a smile.

Justin was employed at Pacific Bell for 15 years. He made many friends there, and those friends will miss him dearly.

Justin, you will always be in our hearts. We love you.

A celebration of Justin's life will be held on December 19, 1993. Call (510) 528-1412 for details. ▼

George Jose Dip

March 16, 1960–Nov. 21, 1993



Early on a Sunday morning, George bid "goodbye" to a great supportive family on the East Coast and a mass of friends on the West Coast. The first of his siblings to be born in the U.S., George had a unique sense of and fierce pride for his family's Mexican and Lebanese ancestry. His love of Mexican history, art, and dance was lifelong, and his love of Lebanese foods prompted more than a few long-distance calls to Mama for family recipes.

George graduated in 1981 from Old Dominion University in Virginia and immediately moved to San Francisco. He took a job with the Morrison and Foerster law firm, rising over the years to operations manager of financial services. Having lived with AIDS for almost two years here in his chosen city, he spent his last few months in his hometown of Richmond, Virginia, with his papa and mama and many loving family members. He was buried November 23, after a funeral mass at St. Anthony's Maronite Catholic Church.

George's sense of fashion and decorative style, his love of music and dance, his happy and often sharp sense of humor — all will be missed by those of us lucky enough to have known and loved "bunny-boy" over the years.

Please direct memorials/donations to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand, or Davies Medical Center. — Will Boerner and Gigi Pascual. ▼

Gary E. Engel

Oct. 18, 1951–Oct. 23, 1993



Gary died in Phoenix, in the loving care of his sister and brother-in-law. He leaves behind his friends, who are bound together in respect and affection for his intellect and his passion. Gary sought life's intensity, never settling for superficialities in himself or us. He once wrote that he knew a friendship can be like dynamite lit at both ends: it might not last long, but the explosion can enrich both people profoundly. Gary didn't enter our lives quietly and didn't leave quietly; he came and left in love, and he changed us forever. ▼

Michael Anthony Hargrove

Dec. 20, 1960–Dec. 11, 1993



Michael Anthony Hargrove, a special, caring, loving son, brother and friend, died on December 11, 1993. He is survived by his parents, Bayless and Veronica; sisters, Lisa and Kelly; brother, Scott; Grandma Roy; and best friends, Ron and Steve, of San Francisco.

Michael's strength, determination and courage have deeply moved us all. We all share a sense of gratitude for having been able to make the transition with Michael. He will be missed, but will remain in our hearts forever. Those beautiful blue eyes and those lashes that went on for miles, the furrowed brows on the face of a little boy. We love you,

Michael — God bless you.

The family requests that donations be made to the AIDS charity of your choice. A private memorial will be held in San Diego. ▼

Darrell Martin (Fouche)

June 24, 1957–Dec. 11, 1993

Enveloped by the love of family and friends, Darrell Otis Martin (Fouche) passed peacefully into the great beyond at Coming Home Hospice, after a lengthy and valiant battle with AIDS. Born in St. Louis, he lived a fruitful life filled with love, adventure, travel, and intense friendship.

A lover of dance, music and good times, Darrell's light will shine forever. In the spirit of love that he shared for the past 36 years, we wish him a safe journey. His family and friends — too numerous to name here — thank him for touching all our lives. On his behalf, we wish to thank all those at St. Mary's Hospital, UCSF, Continuum, V.N.A. and Coming Home Hospice for their care and concern.

A private memorial will be held Friday, December 17, when Darrell's ashes will be cast upon the waters near San Francisco. In lieu of flowers, cash donations may be made in his name to Coming Home Hospice.

More than a memory, Darrell's light lives on in our hearts...

To you Darrell... our son our brother, our friend, our companion: peace. ▼

Carl E. Henderson

Jan. 22, 1961–Dec. 6, 1993

Carl died in his San Francisco apartment of AIDS-related complications. He moved to the City in 1981 with almost nothing, and within a few years, he had overcome a variety of addictions, received his bachelor's degree from San Francisco State University, and started a career in computer database programming.

Carl was an avid participant and teacher in both contact bridge and rock climbing. He had been a dancer and classical music enthusiast. And he had been active in making the concerns of those with AIDS public in interviews with National Public Radio, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, and the *NBC Nightly News*, the latter as part of a special feature on the struggle for legalizing marijuana for medical use which aired a few weeks before the end of Carl's 3½-year battle with AIDS. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, December 18, 1993, and his remains will be scattered at another ceremony July 16, 1994.

Carl is survived by his father, Ron, his mother, Faye, and his two brothers, Ron and Don. He also leaves behind his partner and caregiver, Mark Salzwedel; his climbing partners from Stonewall Climbers and elsewhere; his Shanti support group members; and a close and caring circle of friends and other relatives. You are an inspiration to us all, Carl, and we will miss you very much! ▼

Randy W. Raimundo

March 1, 1954–Oct. 7, 1993

Randy, you were the partner of my youth. We partied (a lot), we grew up (a bit), we played the cards we were dealt. We didn't fly to extremes; you were my boyfriend first, my best friend second, and finally my brother in the face of something we could scarcely believe was happening. "And you shall ask, 'Was it well-done?' And I shall reply, 'It was well-done.'" Sleep with the angels — Buffy Caselli.

On October 7, 1993 another angel rose to eternity. Randy, you left quite an impression in this life. Your inner glow was always welcome by all you encountered. Thanks.

We traveled the world together both physically and spiritually. Our love, friendship, commitment, respect, honesty, and compassion for each other carried us through till death do us part. You always knew where your true family was. Right here in SFI. You became one of the most important people in our lives. Thanks again. Well, now you're in a much better place. "Go into the light." It's time.

P.S. We all miss you — Leo. ▼

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Obituaries

Leland Douglas Nelson 1956-1993

On November 22, 1993, Leland Douglas Nelson died in love in the arms of his partner, Chris George.

Born in 1956 in Idaho Falls, Idaho, Doug lived for the past 15 years in Berkeley, where he worked as a stylist at the Sterling Salon. He had the gift of making people look and feel their best, and his gentleness, wisdom and humor won him friends among men and women, straight and gay, of all ages, races and backgrounds. Doug's friends soon learned that his unassuming manner only belied a quick wit and the quiet but steadfast passion of his commitments and beliefs. We will all miss his profound clarity and sanity and decency.

Doug remained courageous, caring and very much alive in his last moments, as he had throughout a long struggle with HIV. He died consciously, in a spirit of great love for those he left behind. He is survived by his lover, Chris George, friends in the Bay Area and family members in Idaho. Memorial services are planned here and in Hawaii.

Those wishing to honor Doug's life are asked to make a donation to the first needful individual or family they encounter. We think he'd like that kind of remembrance best. ▼

Ralph H. Parsons Jr. December 3, 1993

Ralph died in San Francisco on December 3, 1993. He is survived by his loving parents, Eunice and Ralph; three brothers, David, Paul and Warren; four nephews, all of Massachusetts; and his grandfather, Frank Parsons of North Palm Beach, Fla.

A graduate of Dartmouth High School in Dartmouth, Mass., and the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, Calif., Ralph was a longtime employee of both Hamburger Mary's and Butterfield and Butterfield. His friendly smile and endless energy will be missed by many.

Services will be held at a later date. ▼

Charles D. Peppers (Chuck)

Sept. 22, 1958-Nov. 9, 1993

Chuck came to an untimely end due to heart failure, resulting from an accident that occurred on October 13, 1993. His gallantry and determination were evident throughout his stay in the hospital. His courageous and adventurous spirit will be greatly missed.

Born in Pekin, Illinois, and raised in Southern Illinois and Missouri, he enlisted in the Navy in 1977 after high school as a nuclear submarine specialist. In 1983, after leaving the Navy, Chuck moved to California and was employed by California Transportation in the Department of Building Grounds as a Chief Engineer. He was admired and respected by his peers, and his policies and procedures are still incorporated today. He was given several citations and awards for his efforts.

In this life, Chuck saw all that was good in those he cared for. He was independent, honest, creative, nurturing, playful and moody. This loving soul to those fortunate enough to have met and loved him did make a difference. As did his bright eyes, gentle nature and wicked sense of humor. Most of all his big smile will never fade from memory.

Chuck will be missed by his companion and friend, Ralph McFerrer; his wife, Karen; his daughter, Amanda; his parents, Joanne and Lloyd Follwell of Clinton, Illinois; his brother, Jean Peppers of Lawton Oklahoma; his sisters, Janet Peppers of Salem, Oregon, and Laurie Peppers of Clinton, Illinois; along with several nieces and nephews, and all his friends in the South and East Bay.

Chuck was laid to rest November 15, 1993, at Memorial Park Cemetery in Clinton, Illinois.

Free at last of earthly bonds, God saw you were weary and asked to see you home. Judge not lest thee be judged — it was a good thing. ▼

Dan Sweeney

March 27, 1953-Dec. 6, 1993

This world is a little less bright since the sudden passing of "Danny." His thoughtfulness, beautiful smile and debonair manner will surely be missed. Dan was one of San Francisco's premier bartenders and worked at the Wooden

Horse, Trax, Sanctuary, Charpe's and The OverPass.

A celebration of his life will be held at the Wooden Horse, 622 Polk Street, on Sunday, December 19, between 1 and 2 p.m.

Your love of life will be carried forward in our hearts, Babes! ▼

Paul "Taj" Tellalian October 21, 1993

Paul "Taj" Tellalian died Thursday, October 21, at The Hospice at Mission Hill. He was the son of James and Victoria Tellalian of Troy, New York. He graduated from the Albany School of Pharmacy at Union University and lived in Washington, DC, for several years. He moved to Boston in 1972, working at Boston Lying In Hospital and at Project Place in the South End.

Taj was one of the founders of the Fort Hill Faggots for Freedom in 1975. Some may recall his speech on Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Day that year proclaiming that "every straight man must die!" In those days he delighted in calling himself the "Black Widow" or "One of the Wicked Stepsisters of the Gay Community."

He moved to San Francisco in 1977 and worked out of the Postural Integration Center in the Western Addition. He was a patron of such cultural institu-

tions as the Black and Blue and Mr. B's Ballroom. He moved to Los Angeles in 1984 and became a "Therapist to the Stars," working in the drug and alcohol treatment program at Century City Hospital. He continued to work in leftist politics and spent a year working at the Catholic Worker House.

He was diagnosed with AIDS in 1988. He returned to Boston in 1989. He taught literacy classes at Waite House in Roxbury. For the past several years, he devoted time to developing his spiritual and psychic abilities. Centered in the Back Bay, his psychic practice became noted throughout Eastern Massachusetts.

His friends will remember his lively wit, his generous nature, his conviction that Comrade Stalin will be rehabilitated, and his belief that socialism and fashion are natural allies.

He is survived by his parents; his brother Donald of Newton; his business partner, Elananne Donovan; and Elisha, as well as other friends on both coasts. There was a funeral service at Saint Cecilia's Church on Belvedere Street in Boston. After cremation, a Wiccan service of recommitment to the planet was held at Horseneck Beach in Dartmouth. Memorial donations may be made to The Hospice at Mission Hill, 18 Parker Hill Avenue, Boston, MA 02120. ▼

Obituary Policy

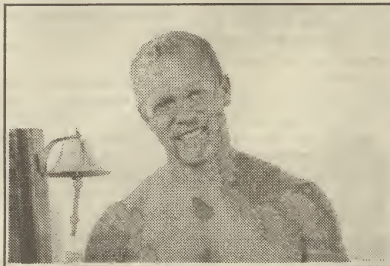
Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, the Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼

Mitchell Alan Johnson Feb. 13, 1958 - Dec. 10, 1993



My love, my friend and my confidant has departed. No longer is he enduring the constant pain of his illness. At life's end, the man I adored with all my heart slipped away peacefully.

While in good health, he constantly sought the many pleasures of life, and was always willing and able to contribute his talents to the community. He enjoyed the company of his friends, setting sail on his boat, riding his motorcycle, going South of Market. AIDS would not allow much of this activity to continue, and he was forced to seek simpler pleasures at home.

Mitch was well-known in San Francisco and beyond. He worked with Coming Home Hospice in the mid-80s. Becoming more visible and active, he dedicated himself to the gym, competing in Physique '89 and gracing both the 1990 and 1991 Eagle Bare Chest calendars. In 1991 he continued his involvement with the leather community by becoming Mr. SF Eagle, Mr. San Francisco Leather, and placing third in the International Mr. Leather competition. He later became a member of the board of directors of the AIDS Emergency Fund and worked closely with members of the fundraising committees until his health prevented him from participating. Mitch worked tirelessly at community events, always with pleasure, pride and his irresistible smile.

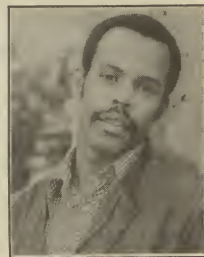
When he became more homebound, it was the love of his family, friends, and God that maintained his spirits and smile. The calls and visits he received were some of the best drugs available.

Mitch, you got my attention with your good looks and warm blue eyes. Soon, I fell in love with you and your many talents, wit and intelligence. I miss you beyond what I thought possible. You enriched my life, and I'm privileged to have been with you in health and in sickness.

A memorial service will take place in early January and will be announced at a later date. — Rick. ▼

Menwell R. "Manny" Simmons Oct. 13, 1947 - Nov. 20, 1993

Manny passed away peacefully at Pacific Medical Center from cardiac failure and cardiomyopathy after a three year struggle with HIV-related illnesses. His sister, Aurelia, and his friend and companion of 17 years, Ed, were at his side.



A native of Willow Grove, Pa., Manny was a three sport star at Abington High School and, after graduation, an interservice sprint champion while serving in the U.S. Army in Southeast Asia. He attended Azusa Pacific University on an athletic scholarship and starred in football, basketball, and track, graduating in 1974 with a degree in Psychology and a teaching credential.

Moving to San Francisco, Manny was in the vanguard of the birth of openly gay athletic competition. He excelled in softball, basketball and volleyball, starting on over a dozen national and city softball championship teams for the Pendulum Pirates, the Village, the Ambush and Uncle Bert's Bombers. His explosive speed and quick bat made him the top leadoff batter in gay softball history. His performances in basketball were equally impressive, including winning a Gold Medal at the original Gay Games. Manny's ball-handling skills and 18 points also led a gay All-Star basketball team to a thrilling one point victory over an All-Star San Francisco Fire Department team before an overflow crowd at Kezar Pavilion. Manny was also a star performer for the Castro Comets, the first openly gay team to participate in the San Francisco City Softball Leagues, successfully competing with the best teams in the city.

Manny loved life, "chit-chat" at the Pendulum or Uncle Bert's, a cocktail, making new friends, arguing with old friends, home cooking, gadgets, the lottery, the Giants, the 49ers (before Joe left), playing to his fans and travel. He leaves behind friends throughout the U.S., plus Sweden, Holland, Germany, England, Canada and especially Australia, where he spent two years. He loved music and wrote his own (including lyrics) recording his vocals under the name Manny Russell. He occasionally sang at clubs around the city, including featured appearances at Bajones and the Boarding House.

Originally stricken with toxoplasmosis in 1991, Manny rehabilitated himself and in September reclaimed his position as a P.E. teacher with the S.F.U.S.D. During his rehab period, he earned a Master's Degree in Psychology from Kensington University. Special thanks to caregivers Becky, Matthew, Gino, Dario, Herb, Irene, Harry, Dr. Berge, Vicky, and Cricket.

Following cremation, Manny's ashes are resting at his home in Pennsylvania. A celebration of Manny's life is being planned. Interested parties call Ed at 255-3024.

Peace be with you, Manny. There will never be another like you. ▼

State Approves Phase III of Immupath study



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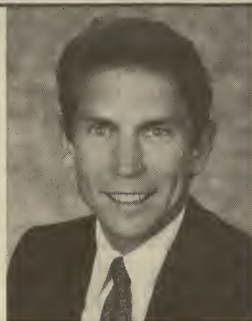
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National News

Magic HIV Lawsuit Settled

United Press International

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN — Retired basketball star Earvin "Magic" Johnson has reached an out-of-court settlement with a Michigan woman who claims the former Los Angeles Laker infected her with HIV.

U.S. District Judge Richard Enslen agreed to dismiss the suit upon receiving a stipulation signed by Johnson and plaintiff Waymer Moore of Lansing, Michigan, that they no longer want to pursue the case. Details of the settlement were not released.

Lawyers for Johnson and Moore did not immediately return phone calls. The trial was scheduled to begin in March but the case has already generated a few highly publicized rulings as Moore's lawyers sought Johnson's medical records, the names of women he had slept with between 1982 and 1990, and the names of others who claimed

Johnson infected them with HIV.

The most recent decision was a May 13 decision that made Moore's name public. Until then, she had been identified only as Jane Doe in court documents. Johnson had also been an anonymous party until he acknowledged on national television that he was the defendant in the case.

Johnson had admitted to a single sexual liaison with Moore, an old friend, in June of 1990. She said in her \$2 million lawsuit, filed October 30, 1992, that Johnson either knew he was infected with HIV — or should have been aware that he was at risk because of his promiscuous lifestyle.

Johnson says he did not know he was infected with HIV until shortly before he announced his retirement in November 1991. Neither Johnson or Moore has developed AIDS.



Magic Johnson scores again.

After learning he was HIV-positive, Johnson — married and a father by then — blamed his infection on the promiscuous, fast-lane NBA lifestyle, and said he had sex with about 2,000 women. ▼

HIV Urine Test Suggests Some People Don't Seroconvert

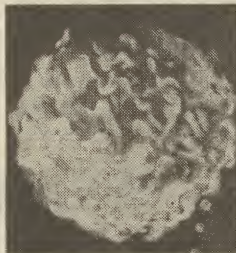
United Press International

WASHINGTON — A small number of people exposed to HIV may be able to fight off the infection because of an unusual "compartmentalized" immune response, researchers reported Thursday, December 9.

The report, in the medical journal *The Lancet*, may help scientists trying to develop strategies against the virus.

Researchers studied seven people whose urine tests indicated antibodies to HIV but whose blood tests were either indeterminate or negative for HIV antibodies.

While one of the patients apparently had not been exposed to HIV, further study indicated the remaining six had been exposed, even though they had not developed HIV infection.



Computer graphic of a white blood cell under attack by HIV

"These cases may be demonstrating a unique type of immunity to [HIV] in that they have not seroconverted and may not progress to AIDS," said Dr. Howard Urnovitz and colleagues in their report.

"We now believe that some individuals may be able to contain or eliminate the virus from their bodies altogether," Urnovitz, the study's lead author and a scientist at Calypso Biomedical of Berkeley, California, which developed the urine test for HIV antibodies, said in a statement.

Urnovitz said the findings suggest that the human immune system may be compartmentalized — that other factors, perhaps other infections, may misdirect the body's immune system defenses trying to fight HIV.

Further study comparing urine test results to blood test results could help researchers developing vaccines and treatments against AIDS, the researchers said. ▼

Fight for 'The American Dream' Against Bigotry Inspires Ohioans

United Press International

COLUMBUS — More than 30 human and civil rights organizations have banded together to form the Ohio Civil Rights Coalition, designed to take an active role effecting state legislation and lawsuits dealing with discrimination in Ohio.

Coalition officials say the various organizations have been working together informally on several discrimination issues that have come before the state's lawmakers and courts.

"We are working together because we believe the American dream includes the promise that all people are to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness," said Jerry Bunge, project director for Citizens for Justice, a coalition member group advocating equality for lesbian, gay, and

bisexual Ohioans. "We are united in our opposition to discrimination in housing, employment, credit and financial transaction, insurance, transportation, public accommodations, architectural accessibility, and other sectors of public life."

The coalition is calling the strengthening of state laws protecting people from police harassment, ending color discrimination in the criminal justice system, and giving all victims equal opportunities to obtain remedies for acts of discrimination.

Mike Smalz of the Ohio State Legal Services Association said the coalition will also seek to improve the funding, staff training, and workload of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission.

Smalz said Ohio is recognized nationally for being a leader in establishing civil

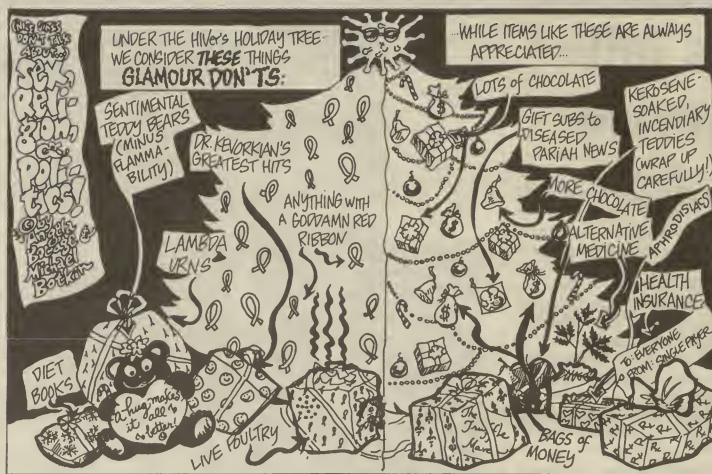
rights protections, but now it needs to implement such protections thoroughly.

"We can have the best civil rights laws in the nation, but if the state agency that is charged to enforce them is not properly funded and its investigators not properly trained, they are completely meaningless," he said.

Another point of concern to the coalition is enhancing public access to public records. Fred Gittes of the Ohio Employment Lawyers Association said retaining access rights to personnel files and government records is crucial in protecting the civil rights of those challenging the system.

Gittes said the group wants to ensure elected officials do not move to cut the period before public records can be destroyed and do not block legal access. ▼

HIV Watch



Christmas Miracles

by Michael C. Botkin

Once upon a time I was a charter member of GRINCH: Gays Reacting Indignantly to Nauseating Christian Holidays. Some holidays are intrinsically gay-friendly and some are not. Halloween, for example, a pre-Christian, pagan festival where young people dress up in costumes and go out to party with their peers, has become perhaps the queerest

Commentary

quasi-religious holiday. Christmas (and to a lesser degree Thanksgiving) promotes hanging out with your family-of-origin, and this by itself is probably enough to make it hellish for the majority of "out" gays, as a trip "home for the holidays" often qualifies as a Twilight Zone-ish dislocation in time and space back — at least partially — into the closet.

Christmas doesn't offer much to gays, unless you count all of the fat, jolly pedophiles who get off on being shopping-mall Santas for a month of the year and having young kids sit on their laps — and they get paid for it! (Speaking of pedophiles, Michael Jackson is back in the USA and apparently plans to spend Christmas on his "Neverland" ranch with two young boys who returned with him from Europe. We don't want toys these boys will find under the tree on Christmas morning — frankly, we're afraid to even think about it — but we're pretty sure they won't include any Polaroid cameras.) Most Christmas traditions focus on large, "traditional" and hopefully prosperous families and thus ignore, or at least slight, queers. What's a gay couple supposed to do with the traditional employer's gift of a "bonus" turkey intended to feed 12?

I was lucky in getting minimal Christmas indoctrination in my youth, as my Jewish-agnostic family largely ignored the whole holiday season. But no family is an island, and the constantly building barrage of holiday "sentiment," most of it Christian and commercial, is impossible to avoid. My best friend Andy and I used to traditionally spend Christmas together at a local Chinese restaurant, the only place in the neighborhood not playing holiday music. My partner would enviously trudge down to be with his

family on Chicago's South Side for their rigidly celebrated Christmas rituals. Not only was it psychological torture, but the food was probably much worse (their take-out fried chicken — if he was lucky — vs. our mu-shu pork).

Now that my spiritual identity has settled into a pleasantly washed-out neo-pagan-Jewish observance, "the holidays" hardly bother me. I put a few ornaments on the designated solstice shrub (our alternative to the nominally Christian tree or the crassly commercial Chanukah bush), buy some rawhides for the dogs, and call it a holiday. I avoid retail shopping, channel-surf past all the holiday season sob stories on TV, and restrain myself from harassing the Salvation Army bell ringers (did you know that "Sally Ann" spent millions of dollars trying to pass an anti-gay law in New Zealand? The legislation bombed when voters realized it was being pushed by American fundamentalist bigots).

Occasionally I'll throw a latke party. Latkes, the traditional Jewish potato pancake consumed to celebrate Chanukah, are one of the few reasonable holiday foods. They're cheap (nothing's cheaper than potatoes), they're meatless, and they can be as high or low in fat as you like, depending on whether you eat them with sour cream (as HIVer calorie-packers like me are wont to do) or with apple sauce (as the cholesterol-conscious and/or vegan might prefer). Sometimes we send out solstice cards, but rarely before Easter.

A closet for eternity

The tackiest consumer item being pitched to the gay community for the holidays this year is probably the "lambda urn." It is a large, granite receptacle for the ashes of a cremated loved one, cunningly embossed with a stylish lambda, that quaintly archaic (and largely unrecognizable to mainstreamers) emblem of gay pride. The flier hawking this sensitive gift asserts that "nearly 100 percent of homosexuals prefer cremation as their choice of disposal."

How, I wonder, did they determine that? Did I miss another vital public opinion research survey? It is true, however, that every gay person I know who's died has chosen cremation and that I intend to go the same route.

However, rather than seek eternal interment in an oversized ashtray, I have asked that my ashes be distributed in the fruit cup of a Republican \$1000-a-plate dinner and that this be revealed only when the dessert is served. Not everyone desires such a dramatic departure, I guess, and these sedate urns offer a closet for eternity. I don't know if they're really such a great holiday gift — they're kind of large and heavy for a stocking stuffer — but I assume they have to pitch their merchandise when everybody else does.

AIDS and Christmas is a
(Continued on page 28)

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Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24

9:30 PM - Choral and Carol Singing

10:00 PM - Liturgy of Christmas

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9:00 AM Mass

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Russian Publisher Faces Jail For Publishing Gay Interview

by Jim Provenzano

When Russian ballet star Boris Moiseiev came out of the closet in the pages of *Novy Vzglyad*, the publisher of the Moscow weekly newspaper expected some controversy. He didn't expect, in the post-communist Russia of 1993,

that it could result in jail time. He was wrong.

Printing the comments of the now openly gay dancing celebrity were deemed "hooliganism" by the Moscow deputy prosecutor, who, despite Dodolev's independence from state bureaucracies, can still pressure *Novy Vzglyad*

[New Glimpse] out of business. Writer/interviewer Jaroslav Mogutin was jailed (for one day), and publisher Yevgeny Dodolev faces up to seven years behind bars. Dodolev is now in America with his advertising director, trying to publicize his case and protest a politburo that he says is no less homophobic and censorious than in earlier Soviet days.

Dodolev, a tall, blond man with passionate eyes and demeanor, is co-author of *The Pyramid*, a book that exposed ties between the Breshnev government and the Soviet Mafia, and was also a co-producer of a highly rated Soviet television news show. With his decidedly critical viewpoint of government corruption, it comes as little surprise that Dodolev would eventually end up a government target. When he and his darkly beautiful advertising director, Natalia Razlodova, met with the *Bay Area Reporter* for an interview, they made a striking and remarkable pair.

"Always politics"

Dodolev claims *Novy Vzglyad* commands a readership of half a million, and is proud of an important distinction between his newspaper and others in Moscow: financial independence. "All other papers are subsidized," he said. "It's officially known. There's a list of how much each newspaper got from the government, so it's still a government mouthpiece."

Razlodova explained that when financial subsidy comes to the typical Russian paper, "It's not always by the state, but some financial group" with state interests at heart. "There's always politics involved," she said.

Novy Vzglyad is now, not surprisingly, in financial straits.

Dodolev said that his newspaper, known for its sensational covers — including one of Lenin's face grafted onto the body of a weightlifter, "is not gay, but we have stories about gays, and a lot of gays work for us." One of those is Mogutin, the journalist who interviewed Moiseiev, repeated the dancer's comments, and got an overnight visit to jail for it.

"In September, I published an interview with Moiseiev, who is openly gay, very famous," Dodolev recalled. "It's a very rare case in my country [to be so outspoken] because it was against the law to be gay. Very rare example is this dancer: as I say, an extraordinary guy. He always tries to shock public opinion with the way he dances, the way he dresses."

"In this interview, Moiseiev says how he wants as many men as possible. Unfortunately I have so little cock it's not possible," he joked. That comment proved to be too much for the ministry, as was Moiseiev's statement, "My lover told me last night, 'Hey, you have 22-year-old's body'" and his rejoinder, "Are you crazy? I got 16-year-old's!"

"It was published," Dodolev told the *B.A.R.*, "and the Deputy Prosecutor started the case against my paper, me, and this journalist. Journalist



Publisher Yevgeny Dodolev (left) and one of *Novy Vzglyad*'s provocative covers (above).

"Most Russians feel so hopeless. We used to live in a zoo, now we live in a jungle." — Yevgeny Dodolev, Publisher, *Novy Vzglyad*

was jailed. They started the case according to Article 206.2. It means 'hooliganism.'

"They used to use this against dissidents, in a way. Actually it means if you broke some noses or some windows or whatever, but they said that I abuse my readers."

"We show the heroes"

Razlodova defended the nature of the candid interview. "We show the heroes of the day. They are talking about their lives, and here, Moiseiev's talking about his life. All the people know him." Other papers have interviewed the ballet star, she said, but have never mentioned his sexuality.

Dodolev said he prefers to "stay away from that policy. I let the people say whatever they want to say, anyone, and I don't care, right wing, left wing, gay, or whatever."

When asked about the response from other newspapers, Dodolev said, "There was some noise in Moscow mainstream newspapers, but not as big as I expected it to be," he admitted. "I think if it was for some political issue, it would be bigger. Since it was [perceived to be] a gay problem, they try to avoid coverage, thinking that it's sort of disgusting."

From his maverick position in the Russian publishing world, Dodolev is understandably critical of the Yeltsin regime, and the state of affairs in the country.

"Yeltsin's democracy is not happening," he said. "My people long for dictatorship. Russians, we are a nation of children. We want some father..."

"Big bad father..." Razlodova added.

"...to protect us, to punish us, to show us what to do, what to say. Most Russians feel so hopeless. We used to live in a zoo, now we live in a jungle. We want to be back in the zoo. To be fed, small servings but, you know, guaranteed. We have no skill for survival. Yeltsin has a chance to be a real dictator. American media doesn't cover what goes on in my country. They have declared that Yeltsin is the main ally in Eastern Europe." He said the rosy picture and occasional news blackouts are part of the American media's ignorance and complicity in deluding the rest of the world about the situation in Russia.

"They can jail you for 24 hours for anything in my country. I've been in a Soviet prison as a dissident. I know what prison is."

"Pissing in Red Square"

Dodolev also flatly stated that many gays have been arrested and not released. "They say that they are just ordinary criminals. They say, 'He's a hooligan.' They don't care about specifics. If I'm

"One of Yeltsin's advisers used to work for KGB, and he is nicknamed Tatiana, which is female name. Guess why?" — Yevgeny Dodolev, Publisher, *Novy Vzglyad*

pissing in the middle of Red Square, it's hooliganism. Moiseiev, they are not after him, because he's famous and he has huge connections."

He also mentioned the "gay lobby around Yeltsin," a small circle of homosexual officials who "are not out of the

(Continued on next page)

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Health & Community

ACT UP Golden Gate Meetings are Tuesdays, 7pm. 584B Castro. Discuss treatment issues, possible actions and recommendations. 252-9200.

AIDS/HIV Nightline Seeks volunteers to staff phones. Call Ralph or Dave at 752-4866.

Adult Children of Alcoholics Gay & lesbian support group meets Wednesdays, 8-9:30pm at MCC, Room 104, 150 Eureka St. All are welcome.

Alexander Hamilton Post 448 Lesbian & gay veterans in the American Legion meet the third Thursday of each month. 7pm. Room 202, War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness. 431-1413.

Alternative Alcohol Problem Fellowship Tuesdays, 8-9:30pm. 398-6594.

Anger & Conflict in Relationships Eight week course in anger, aggression, and how to overcome relationship problems. Tuesday eves, 6:30pm, starting Jan. 18, Everett Middle School, 450 Church. 585-5150.

Bay Area Young Positives HIV support group for young people of color. Weekly meetings, activities. Every Wednesday, 7pm. 25 Van Ness, 5th fl. 487-1616.

Brothers Network (Bay Area HIV Support & Education Services) Drop-in support groups, closed groups as well. 625 O'Farrell. 749-6714.

Dignity SF Eucharist every Sun., 5:30pm. Presbyterian Church, 1329 7th Ave. 681-2491.

Francis of Assisi Community Subsidized housing facility for mobility-impaired and wheelchair users is now taking applications for housing. 621-4092 (TT 1-800-755-2929).

Freshstart Quit Smoking 6-8pm, Tuesdays & Thursdays at St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center, 450 Stanyan. \$24.50. 394-7100.

G40plus Club Potluck party for gay men over 40, with piano stylings by Myron Crandall. Dec. 19, 2pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary. 552-1997.

Girth & Mirth Christmas Dinner Party, Dec. 18 at a San Francisco restaurant. 824-0260.

GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) Meetings, potlucks, friendship groups. Call 626-7000.

Gay Youth Awareness Training FOCYS, of Peninsula Family YMCA, offers training for educators on gay youth issues. 349-7969.

Glide's 2nd Annual Holiday Party Celebration with the Rev. Cecil Williams and the congregation that's been working hard on lifting the ban on gays in the ministry. Dec. 19, 6pm. Caffe Esprit, 499 Illinois. Contributions to Glide's Tenderloin and HIV assistance programs can be made at the door. 923-1154.

HIV+ Support & Education Programs Different groups for gay men, women, public education forums, couples, family & friends support group, and socials. All groups meet 6:30-8pm, Mondays & Tuesdays. 235 W. MacArthur Blvd., Room 530. 596-6337.

MCC Advent Vespers Services. December 22 at 7pm. 150 Eureka St. 863-4434.

Self-Defense Classes Free and every Sunday, 3-4pm, Collingwood Park, 18th & Collingwood in the Castro. 985-7423.

SF AIDS Foundation Seeks volunteers for its telephone hotline, specifically English-speaking and bilingual Filipino and Spanish operators. 864-5855, ext. 2000.

SF Network for Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women Support group starting in January. 281-0276.

Shanti Volunteers Urgently needed to assist PWAs. Call 777-2273.

Spectrum Support groups for queer youth, men, women, seniors and more. Weekly meetings. 457-1115.

Unitarian Universalists Les/bi/gay transgender & straight allies meet the last Sunday of each month at Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 12-1pm after 10:30am service. (510) 228-0323.

Whiptail Lizard Lounge Alternative dyke space that's smoke and alcohol-free. LYRIC event Dec. 18, 8-11pm Collective meeting Dec. 19, 7pm. Dyke March planning committee meeting at 3pm. Bring ideas and input. Open Saturdays & Sundays. 4035 18th St. For events, call 267-6979.

Winter Solstice Celebration Honor the change of season with ritual, song and communion. Tickets free but must be obtained in advance. Dec. 21, 7pm. Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness. 775-0227.

Women's HIV Clinic 12:30-4:30pm every second & fourth Monday. San Mateo County AIDS Program. 573-2385.

Violence Against S/M Women Report of anti-S/M treatment in the lesbian community. For a copy, call (215) 844-5733.

Voices of Pride Sexual minority resource center offers support services to queer and questioning youth 23 and under. (510) 530-8529 or (415) 553-4026.

Women Embracing Life (WEL) Support group for women with HIV. 3543 18th St. 668-3765.

Russian

(Continued from previous page)

closet. Actually, these guys do not like anyone being out. The society of political aides, you would be amazed."

Dodolev has not gone so far as to out any of these officials. "In one of my columns," he said, "I mentioned that one of Yeltsin's advisers used to work for KGB, and he is nicknamed Tatiana, which is female name. 'Guess why?' Actually, people know this guy's gay. I couldn't say that, because I couldn't prove it."

Novy Vzglyad continues to be published in their absence. "They cannot shut it down until the court does that," Dodolev said, although he acknowledged that Moscow prosecutors said in an interview in the pro-Yeltsin paper that sooner or later they would shut down "the dirty newspaper."

Razlodova said that advertisers have begun to shy away from buying ads because "they aren't sure that the paper will be printed next week."

"For us, staying in America means losing money," Dodolev told the *B.A.R.*, but "when I'm back, I will be arrested."

"My attorney says he will close the case. This problem, actually, has less to do with the gay thing. Actually they do not like me because they cannot control me. They try to show me my place. There was a hint that I am gay, but they are wrong. I got a lot of letters saying 'well, we know that you are gay, but we love your newspaper.'" ▼



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California Briefs

Gypsy Raises \$85K for L.A. Shanti, Search Alliance

Everyone knew they could see Bette Midler's *Gypsy* for free on CBS TV. So it must have been to honor Emile Ardolino, the show's director who died of AIDS before the film's release, that a special, sponsored-underwritten November 30 screening at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences sold out at first mention. The long waiting list crowd got to see the film at a second screening, arranged by Midler at a Disney studio.

The two benefit screenings raised nearly \$85,000 for Los Angeles Shanti Project, which provides emotional support to those impacted by AIDS, and Search Alliance, which conducts fast track human clinical trials on promising new AIDS treatments.

—Karen Ocamb

\$250K Raised for Project Angel Food

The spectacular Angel Art '93 auction at the Pacific Design Center on December 5 raised approximately \$250,000 for Project Angel Food, a meals



Sir Ian McKellan and David Hockney at Angel Art '93.

on wheels program for homebound people with AIDS. Over 800 works of art were donated by such artists as Robert Graham, David Hockney, Herb Ritts, Richard Meier, and Mark Kostabi. Lily Tomlin emceed, Sir Ian McKellan read a poem, Mayor Richard Riordan spoke, Anjelica Houston read a letter from new NEA chair Jane Alexander, and entertainment industry honcho Mike Medavoy read letters from President Bill Clinton. Clinton acknowledged both the work of Project Angel Food and of event producer Michael Childers.

—Karen Ocamb

AHF Telethon Raises over \$1 Million

The AIDS Healthcare Foundation raised \$1,603,814 in a year-long fundraiser that culminated with a four-hour live AIDS telethon on December 12. The second annual telethon was anchored by actor Edward James Olmos and aired live on KCAL-TV. Others assisting on the phone bank or with live or taped messages included Joan Van Ark, Nancy Dussault, Touki Smith, Liza Minnelli (on tape singing in Spanish), and David Hyde Pierce (*Frasier*).

But, said AHF President Michael Weinstein, it was very important to have people with AIDS on to speak for themselves. Among those was PWA, and new APLA board member, Sharon Lund, 44, who appeared with her 18-year-old daughter Jeaneen. Sharon Lund said she was going through a "scared period" with her own health and had just lost three friends. But thoughts for her daughter were foremost on her mind. "It's hard on me to see Jeaneen go through this," Lund said. "I get concerned."

—Karen Ocamb

Colorado

(Continued from page 1)

no legal meaning — but it scares voters. Polls have indicated Coloradans believed what was implied in the words, that one person will gain at the expense of another. Anti-gay activists in Colorado persuaded voters that "militant homosexuals" had targeted the state with a massive and well-funded agenda. They argued that gays were demanding "protected class status" in the law and that was a special right. Voters were told that meant "quotas and minority status." Amendment Two architects said if the "militant agenda" was left unchallenged, citizens would be forced to hire or rent to gays and lesbians, their free choice would be lost, and the "hard-won gains of African-Americans, Hispanics, women, and the disabled" would be shattered.

Opponents then played on the deep-seated fears and homophobia. Disgusting promotional campaign materials were distributed to thousands of voters, accusing gays "of practicing repellent sexual acts and spreading communicable diseases."

In Tuesday's ruling, Bayless said that the evidence presented in the October trial was enough to persuade him that there is no "militant gay aggression in Colorado which

endangers the state's political function."

Ironically, it may seem as if there are more gays in Colorado, and more gays with an agenda, than ever before. In the wake of Amendment Two, Colorado lesbians and gays have embarked on a campaign of "coming out," urging their brothers and sisters to be visible with family, friends and co-workers. They argue that when society comes to know gays and lesbians, fears will wane and longstanding myths will disappear.

Finally, in the October court trial, plaintiffs offered testimony and asked the court to review classification of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, as a "suspect class." Bayless said he heard no evidence that "homosexuals or bisexuals are vulnerable or politically powerless." Therefore, he refused to rule that gays deserve protected class status. To date no court in the country has addressed this issue.

The backers of Amendment Two say their first priority will be to "safeguard" the law. The Colorado Attorney General, Gail Norton, plans to appeal the decision to Colorado's high court. Observers expect it to go all the way to the United States Supreme Court. ▼

[Kathy Deitsch is a lesbian and free-lance writer living in Denver.]

HIV Watch

(Continued from page 25)

quirky mix, and not too many organizations try seasonal pitches at the HIV market. One AIDS advocacy group is selling Christmas tree ornaments with the "red ribbon" on them and the slogan: "Miracles Happen." Smarmy enough for you? I'm surprised that the lambda urn people didn't think of producing their own red-ribbon model (though the slogan "Miracles Happen" might be less appealing on a funeral urn).

These tentative efforts to blend Christmas and AIDS are amusing but lack conviction. Let's take the concept and go all the way with it: red-ribbon-decorated portrait Christmas tree ornaments containing the ashes of your dearly departed! We can call them "Funeral Balls" or "Morbid Ornaments" or "Visiting Angels" or something.

Now your deceased loved ones can be there with you as you celebrate Christmas for the rest of your natural life, watching you open your presents (a new anti-viral, a portable IV pole with racing stripes, a Judy Garland bedpan, maybe one of those lambda urns if you have fewer T-cells than Santa has reindeer).

Each ornament would bear the likeness of the deceased (preferably a photo from B.D.—Before Diagnosis—unless you really want to harp on the morbid aspects of all this), the red ribbon of AIDS awareness (with or without Teddy bear), and perhaps an appropriate religious emblem (cross or crystal, as preferred) or a favorite aphorism of the deceased ("So many men, so little time," etc.). Or you could use the ashes as "snow" in a Christmas scene paperweight. Just send a few ounces of ash-

es (you can spare them — even the most wasted PWA produces several pounds worth), the photo and the last words to our mail-order house (we should get a 1-800 number), and we'll express mail you your loved one in time for the holidays.

This innovative marketing idea will likely conflict with the persnickety laws concerning the "proper disposal of remains." A similar objection has been raised concerning my own fruit-cup funeral plans. But these laws are rarely enforced, and perhaps some sort of religious exclusion can be worked out to allow these unique ornaments. With any luck, the practice will take off and cross over into the mainstream; soon people will be "ornamenting" their pets and aged parents. Soon, mere death will no longer be an excuse for missing Christmas. ▼

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 181485

The following person is doing business as CAFE MONDA, 2032 Polk St. San Francisco, CA 94109; FRANK F. MONDA, 1411 Hyde St. San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed FRANK F. MONDA.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 7, 1993.

December 16, 23, 30 January 6, 1993.

L-181485

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 956773

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MARK JOHN GUARIGLIA for change of name. The application of MARK JOHN GUARIGLIA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MARK JOHN GUARIGLIA has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to MARK JOHN DIAMIO. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 10th day of January 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 2nd day of December, 1993.

December 9, 16, 23, 30, 1993.

L-956773

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 180838

The following person is doing business as DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW, 4079 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; NEIL GELINEAU, 11 Corwin Street #4, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date November 10, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed NEIL GELINEAU.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1993.

November 24, December 2, 9, 16, 1993.

L-180838

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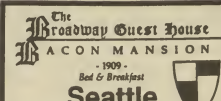
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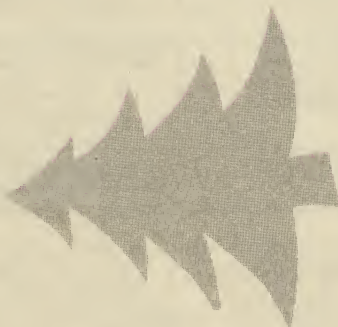
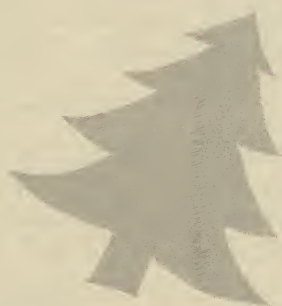
RAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 16, 1993 PAGE 31



Happy Holidays



from the staff and writers of
The Bay Area Reporter





Up, up and away: an image from Tom Bianchi's latest fleshporation, *Extraordinary Friends*.

Tom Bianchi's 'Extraordinary Friends' Fluff 'n' Stuff

by Brandon Judell

Legendary naked-man photographer Tom Bianchi is pushing his third book from St. Martin's Press, *Extraordinary Friends*, another collection of hot numbers playing and romancing in front of the camera.

Catching up with the Los Angeles-based photographer recently in New York, I found that Bianchi had much to say about his new book, and others in the works. Grayer now than when his first best seller, *Out of the Studio*, came out in 1991, the fortysomething photographer appeared, nevertheless, happy, healthy and rested. He seemed, for a moment any-

way, the perfect spokesman for his own work. Our conversation went in many directions, but frequently returned to several favorite topics, namely work, travel and his childhood in the suburbs of Chicago. Bianchi said his family was well-off when he was growing up, but he'd always thought the opposite because his mother never bought canned soup — she always made it from scratch. "I just assumed we were poor," he said with a bemused grin.

Deluded?

Tom's tendency for self-delusion might well be affecting his subject matter. A press release from Bianchi's publicist swears that he is

(Continued on page 38)



"The absence of honest pictures of affection between people of the same sex is a lie of omission." — Tom Bianchi

Local Stages Have the Holiday Spirit Christmas Camp

by Jerry Metzker

One of the great things about Christmas is that it's more than just a one-day celebration. Most of us celebrate an entire holiday season. Yet, as we rush around madly purchasing gifts, putting up trees, lighting candles, getting stuck in traffic, and mailing cards, how often do we really partake of the many pleasures of the season? That question seems more pertinent this year than in December past, for the Bay Area theater community has outdone itself in 1993 with a fine collection of yuletide shows. The following is just a short sampler of what The City that knows how has cooked up for the holidays.

The most recent entry into the Christmas season is *A Karen Carpenter Christmas*, currently playing at the Marsh. This is Christmas from 1970s La-La Land. In the show, Karen, and "perpetually dazed" brother Richard, plan their first holiday television special. Too bad it's only July and Karen just can't muster the holiday spirit. That makes planning, singing and being good old Karen harder than she ever imagined. How she finally achieves Xmasgasm leads the audience to the show's entertaining climax.

Karen Carpenter fans will not be disappointed. Not only



Insecure Karen Carpenter just can't get the holiday spirit in *A Karen Carpenter Christmas* (Clockwise from top, Morey Goldstein, J. Raoul Brody, Jo-Carol, Steve Small, Katie Guthorn, center).

does Karen sing a great many of her hit songs, she also gets to perform them with cheesy special guests like Alvin and the Chipmunks, Herb Alpert, and David (yuck) Cassidy.

Not only does Karen sing many of her hit songs, she performs them with cheesy guests like Herb Alpert and David Cassidy.

And when Karen is feeling insecure and uncertain (remember, she was kind of neurotic), who should appear but Barbara Streisand to soak up a good part of the budget and share a quick "assertiveness training" session, which concludes in a terrific rendition of "Enough is Enough."

Perfectly hideous costumes and an appropriately tacky rec room (designed by Jason Mecier) set the stage for this winning production. Local performance favorite Pussy Torette contributes just the right kind of choreography. Supporting players Morey Goldstein as Richard, Steve Small as Alpert, Cassidy and others are terrific. Memorable, too, is Jo-Carol, who plays Streisand and a bombastic Ethel Merman.

Karen Carpenter has almost been resurrected by

(Continued on page 39)

Geduldigand Company Plan Unusual Xmas-eve Show Pig-Out on Kung-Pao Comedy

by Kate Bornstein

Figures, doesn't it? Someone plans a Jewish Queer Comedy Christmas Eve party in town — at a Chinese restaurant — and who do they get to write about it? The pagan transsexual lesbian. Don't get me wrong, I used to be Jewish. With a name like Bornstein, I certainly wasn't Irish Catholic.

I grew up on the New Jersey Shore. Most of our Jewish friends and neighbors had a tradition on Christmas Eve: they would bundle the family into the car (usually an Oldsmobile), and drive down to one of the six Chinese restaurants in town for a sumptuous multi-course meal.

(Continued on page 38)



Comedians Scott Silverman, Lisa Geduldig, Stu Silverstein and Suzy Berger in *An Evening of Kung Pao Kosher Comedy*.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

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"A celebration of the different kinds of relationships gay people have with each other. . . *Jumping the Broom* is certainly something to be proud of" - Sentinel

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OutThere

The Annals of Queerdom

by Orland Outland

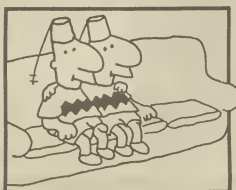
Orland Outland's Christmas Wish List of Demands (with apologies to *The Face*):

* Bill Clinton will replace Kristine The Stamp Lady with someone a little more, let's say, active? Ms. Gebbie is the ideal mouthpiece of Clinton's "I feel your pain" message, and she's full of sensitivity and concern. But sorry, dearie, we need an activist, not a therapist.

* The *Examiner* or the *Chron* will start running a "Gay Page" at least once a week — and not on Saturday, when nobody reads the paper, and not with columns by some syndicated out-of-town homo, when so many local boys and girls need the work.

* KQED will get a novel idea in its head — that it should serve the local community. They will inaugurate *Headline News* for homos, a weekly program with hard news followed by infotainment. It will be nationally syndicated to other PBS stations, whether they want it or not.

* MTV will cancel Beavis and Butt-Head and replace them with Akbar and Jeff.



Fez fags want their MTV!

* Joe Camel is to be sent to jail for corrupting the morals of minors. There he'll find out what "The Hard Pack" really gets up to at night.

* *People* magazine will stop putting vanilla beans on the cover and calling them The Sexiest Man or Sexiest Woman Alive. Next year's winners will be Andrew Shue and Drew Barrymore.

* Gay artists and performers will stop using their cutiepie faces and nearly nude gymbods to advertise their art. No, honey, your beauty does not mean your art is beautiful, too — actually, what it says is that you aren't very talented and have to use the



Kristine Gebbie: Not what the doctor ordered.

beef factor to get people in the door. You all know who you are — stop the insanity.

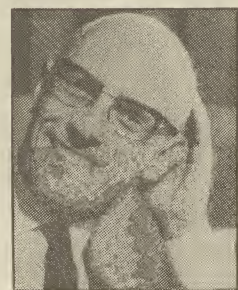
Anyway, Merry Generic Shopping Holiday to one and all. Things you can do to celebrate: See *Spunk's* Phallic Folkart Show and Sale at Eros, this Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m., if only to sit in the lap of *Steam* magazine's "Towel Boy of the Year," Eros employee and pornstarlet Dave Fremland. I had the privilege of interviewing this cutiepie for *Steam*, and he's not only sexy but also (gasp!) nice. The new issue of *Steam*, with my interview with Dave, should be on stands now.

For the more traditionally minded (or those who don't want to be photographed by local news stations entering a sex club), there's *Animal's* *Positive Christmas*, this Friday and Saturday at 9:30 at Lennon Studios, 271 Dore Alley. These classically trained SoMa boys will be performing "Good King Wenceslaus," "The Wexford Carol," and one you won't remember from the Mormon Tabernacle Choir TV specials, "Pieces of Jesus." It's \$5; PWAs admitted free.

Coming to art theaters January 21, it's *Savage Nights*, which won Best Picture at France's home version of the Oscars. *The Hollywood Reporter* calls it "an unflinching portrait of an HIV-positive youth who continues to pursue reckless sex." Unsafe sex: The Love That Dare Not Speak Its Name for the '90s? None of the straight press who've mentioned this film, or its subject matter, can resist noting, even in the shortest blurb, that Cyril Collard, the writer/director of this autobiographical film, recently died of AIDS.

Egghead's Corner: Speaking of sex and France, I just started reading Edmund White's *Genet*. Eddie, get out of Paris before it's too late! Too often the book reads like it was written by the ghost of Michel Foucault. "For him, there was a single reality, the world of power relations in society," White says of Genet, which is pure Foucault. And once young Jean is in prison, White's prose gets Chock-Full O'Panopticons. Odd that this book's reviewers haven't noticed Mad Michel's influence on White (or do they all just take Foucault's philosophy as gospel truth?). With all this French postmodernist influence on the book, wouldn't it be fun to see a review by Camille Paglia?

B.A.R. contributor Karen Ocamb has a story on gays in Hollywood in *The Hollywood Reporter*. Ocamb noted that NBC's hour-long *Raymond Burr* tribute "played up the myth of unrequited love" between Burr and Barbara Hale — Burr's longtime companion, Raymond Benevides, wasn't mentioned. (Need I remind you, NBC is the network that bailed out of *And The Band Played On* until the flick attracted 3 million viewers on HBO?)



Onetime SF sex club habitué and full-time French philosopher, the late Michel Foucault gives *Genet* a post-modern spin.

The December/January issue of *Genre* has a piece on the rise in methamphetamine use by gay men; however, their condemnatory article also lists places in LA to buy it, where speed freaks hang out, different kinds of crystal and their effects, different ways to take the drug, etc. The article is a veritable Fodor's on the Southland speed scene. In all fairness, there are also a number of horror stories in the article about crystal psychosis — one speed dealer was so wired he thought his cat was talking to him, telling him she had cat cancer and begging him to drown her (he drowned the cat). And yet the article also features detailed testimonials from people about how great it was the first time they shot up, and how great crystal is when you want to get poked. Looks like *Genre* has found that you can please all of the people all of the time.



Drug casualty.

"Early buzz" from "Hollywood Insiders" is that *Philadelphia* is soooooo good ... Out There's Movie Math(TM): *The Blackboard Jungle* = *Fame* — *West Side Story* = *Sister Act 2* ... Paul Rudnick has been signed to write a third *Addams Family* script ... My number again, 415/995-2342. Call and tell all, or get news and gossip, updated Thursdays and Mondays. ▼

Cartoonist Diane DiMassa Started Character as Therapy

The Rise of Hothead Paisan

by Erin Blackwell

Some artists won't go near therapy for fear they'll have all the creative wrinkles ironed out of them. For Diane DiMassa, creator of America's favorite homicidal lesbian terrorist, Hothead Paisan, therapy was the key to channeling her demons creatively.

DiMassa, 34, had gotten into drugs and alcohol early. "About 11 or 12," she recalls in a recent interview, "and then it just progressed, just like they say it does. It does." DiMassa made it all the way to heroin before having a revelation: "I just knew somehow that nothing was ever going to change until I stopped all this."

Stopping the drugs was one thing; starting the creative juices was another. Although DiMassa says she's "always" been cartooning, she admits she's also always avoided following through with projects. "I really creatively murdered myself all those years. I was so frustrated with not being able to let it come out, you know. Cause I was always so fucked up. So it was a huge process for me to come back to it."

Part of that come-back process was finding work in her native New Haven. A veteran of 60, count 'em, 60 jobs, DiMassa finally found stable employment with a "huge small-press distributor called Inland Book Company." Starting as a receptionist, DiMassa later did a strip for the company catalogue. Today, Inland distributes her work.

DiMassa's rehab process meant getting sober and into therapy. "I was dealing with the creative block and my anger," she explains. "Perfect combination. So the therapist said to me, 'Why don't you do some artwork around your anger?' That's how Hothead started."

Dr. Frankenstein

Since then, Hothead Paisan has become a national cult hero via the quarterly zine published by DiMassa's lover, Stacy Sheehan, and their company, Giant Ass Publishing. The wild-eyed, spikey-haired character is a "media-blitzed, over-caffeinated

and dangerous to rapists, macho assholes, homophobes, racists and anyone else who rubs her the wrong way."

"She just sort of reflects what goes on in society in a very unabashed, unapologetic way," asserts DiMassa. "She's definitely a reactionary and a realist. She has a very acute bullshit detector and zero tolerance for propaganda. So she acts out fantasies most of us do in our heads at our perceived injustices."

In other words, Hothead isn't the answer to some politically correct lesbian-feminist collective's dreams. "The violent things that I draw don't come easily to me," says DiMassa. "It started as therapy and that's why I forced myself to draw them: to get them the hell out of my guts and onto paper where I could see them so they wouldn't be these big scary monsters. That's why I do it."

At this point, her partner speaks up as a character witness. "When I first saw the first few pages that she had drawn I was shocked," Sheehan recalls. "I was shocked because I know who she is. She abhors that kind of violence. It was so disturbing coming from her. I knew it was a real tortured-soul exorcism sort of thing."

Allowing her creative demons freedom of expres-

sion has helped DiMassa handle her own anger. "Hothead takes the edge off," she says. "Drawing it, and also knowing I have this connection with all these women out there. That was another part of my problem: I felt really isolated and alone with all these huge, huge feelings. Now I know I'm not alone, which is another part of my healing."

Child of therapy, Hothead Paisan is a healing icon for women around the country who subscribe to the zine and correspond with Giant Ass. "The letters are so passionate, so sincere," says Sheehan. "We're often in tears."

Emotions aside, Hothead means business, and while

Sheehan still yearns for the day when she can stop saying she works in a restaurant a few nights a week, it's clear that Hothead's got a brilliant future ahead of her. In June, she appears in *The Nation*, and next spring, she takes to the stage in Theater Rhinoceros's *Out of the Inkwell*. *Hothead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist*, (Cleis Press, \$12.95), a large-format compilation of zines, one through nine, plus 20 exclusive pages, is already on the stands. ▼

Editor's Note: Subscriptions are \$14 for one year (four issues); send check to Giant Ass Publishing, P.O. Box 214, New Haven, CT. 0652

Hothead is a lone deranger, armed to the teeth and dangerous to rapists, homophobes, racists and anyone else who rubs her the wrong way.

ed lesbian," according to her Dr. Frankenstein, who is quick to defend the little monster. "You might think on first sight that she's just violent or icy, but in fact the reason that she acts the way she does is because she's more sensitive than average and has a really hard time discovering just how shitty the world can be."

While DiMassa says that Hothead is autobiographical, the windmills her cartoon alter-ego does battle with are more macro than micro, more political than personal, more cosmic than psychological. In a Marshall McLuhan universe, Hothead is the global village idiot-savant, a lone deranger, armed to the teeth

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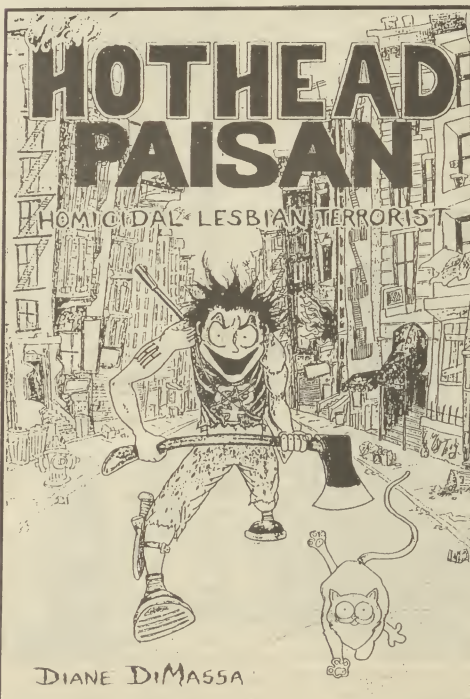
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Community

December Delights in the Fillmore

by Mary Richards

The neighborhoods of San Francisco all have their special charms, but this Christmas season we decided to take a stroll around the Fillmore, where sidewalk cafes and coffeehouses sit side by side and small, elegant shops give this section of the city a decidedly European feeling.

With its flair for the finer things in life, the Fillmore could have ended up like Union Street — a strip filled with tourists who pay outrageous prices for items that only a yuppie could love. Spared this ignominy by its geographic location (far away from Fisherman's Wharf) and the loving care of its citizens (who evidently think cleanliness is next to godliness), the Fillmore beckons people from all over the city to come and enjoy.

The area is easily reached on the 24 Divisadero and 22 Fillmore. But if you take the bus, this rider recommends you stay on until you get to the corner of Fillmore and Jackson, so that you can stroll leisurely down one side of the street and up the other, making sure not to miss any treats along the way.

Sad to say the Alta Plaza restaurant and PJ's piano bar, both gay-run establishments, are no longer in business. However, most of the shops and restaurants here seem to have their fair share of the gay community either working for them or patronizing them.

Caffeine Connoisseurs

Having a cup of coffee appears to be in vogue these days, at least in the Fillmore, a neighborhood that does coffee with style and panache. Fillmore denizens are frequently seen lounging around Spinelli's (2455 Fillmore), and further down the block, Has Beans (great name) and the infamous Starbucks (of Seattle fame) do a lively business as well.

Any astute observer can see that the Mike Furniture store at 2142 Fillmore has the lock on good-looking gay staff in this area. Elegant furnishings, too, of course, that's what the business is all about, but believe me, "browsing" in this shop takes on a whole new meaning!

The beautiful Tree of Hope sits in the window of



Dover-Foxcroft on Fillmore Street carries exquisite antique prints, handmade photo frames, and much more.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Mike Furniture, decorated with specially designed ornaments that are being sold to raise money for Bay Area AIDS service providers. This is the second year The Design Industries Foundation for AIDS (DIFFA) has sold ornaments from their tree, with 100 percent of the proceeds donated. Volunteers are on hand to discuss the project and sell the ornaments, which range in price from \$13 to \$44.

Event coordinator Ron Marvin says of DIFFA, "We raise as much money as we possibly can, and then we grant it. We have a really good reputation for finding a lot of the smaller agencies that are trying to get started that need the funding. We have an excellent granting process, and it's really a good thing for people who want to give in the fight against AIDS but don't know who to give it to."

Bad Hair Ban

Wandering further down the street, we noticed Mainline gifts, a sister store to the Castro St. shop. Larger in scope, it carries those distinctive items for which Mainline is so famous. Owner Jim Beale looked busy, but took a moment to point out some hot items for Christmas shoppers. An amusing gift is the updated devotional candle which promises "protection from bad hairdressers" — something we can all use. The Light Doodler is voice-sensitive and enables the user to doodle with light, a new

trick for an old pastime.

To step into the frame gallery of Dover-Foxcroft Ltd. (2122 Fillmore) is like being in old Londontown. Filled with exquisite antique prints, handmade photo frames, decorative accessories and jewelry, the store has a delightful Edwardian feeling. David Shaskan, partner in the enterprise, says that owners Douglas Kingsley and Daniel Montalto have a larger store in New York and were thrilled to open in the Fillmore two years ago.

Cedanna (1925 Fillmore) offers items designed for "artful living" and, with its beautiful display of merchandise, seems more like a small museum than an actual store. Definitely worth a visit during your travels.

Shopping till you drop takes its toll, but never fear, there are more than enough bars and restaurants along the way in the Fillmore to restore your spirits and delight your palate. Vivande Porta Via restaurant and shop (2125 Fillmore) is especially intriguing, and La Mediterranee (2210 Fillmore), which has a sister eatery in the Castro, has offered Greek cuisine in the Fillmore for the last 14 years. Trio Cafe (1830 Fillmore) is a great place to lunch and somewhat removed from the most intense hustle and bustle. The genuine French pastry shop on the corner has fabulous eclairs.

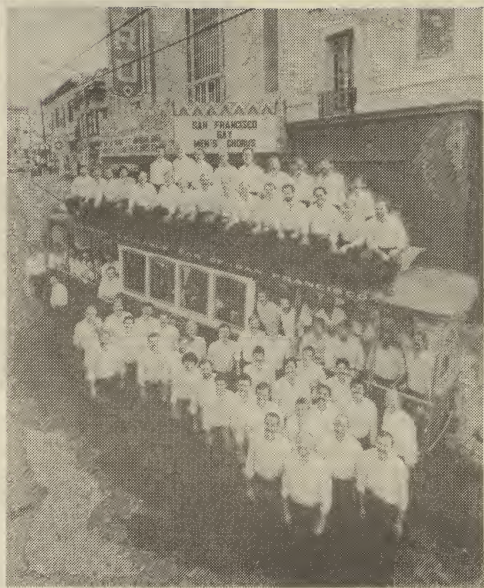
Here's wishing all our readers and friends wonderful shopping adventures this holiday season! ▼



The Tree of Hope, in the window of Mike Furniture on Fillmore St., is decorated with ornaments sold to raise money for AIDS service providers.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Music



A Holiday tradition: the Gay Men's Chorus at the Castro Theatre on Christmas Eve.

Gay Men's Chorus and 'Big Hair Holiday' Big Fun

by Roberto Friedman

Big hair, big voices, big theatre, big show. Big chorus, big publicity, big deal: this weekend the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus brings its big-time annual holiday production, *Big Hair Holiday*, to the Center for the Arts Theater at Yerba Buena Center. There's a big chance this finale to the Chorus's 15th Anniversary Season will be Big Fun.

Why is it called *Big Hair*? "We're letting our hair down and having fun," explains Artistic Director Stan Hill. The chorus has a yearly tradition of cutting loose for their holiday show. This year the big numbers include a take-off on the "Twelve Nights of Christmas" in which the chorus will take the audience on a musical tour of the "Twelve Floors" of Macy's. Each retail department features a new surprise, such as choral members modelling the latest fashions, *couture haute* and low. We're talking Calvin Klein briefs, we're talking teddies amply cut for full-figured gals. Seasonal "big hair drag." Fourth floor, lingerie.

Who will be there? The 135-man chorus composed of tenacious tenors, bodacious baritones, ace basses. Soloist Lisa Gray and a 12-piece instrumental section. Two ensembles culled from the Chorus's best voices, cutely named the Lollipop Guild and Nota Bene. Donna Sachet, Miss Gay San Francisco 1993, will make an appearance. Miss Sachet sings bass. And there will also be a cameo by someone the press release calls "the Jolly Old Elf himself."

Of course the Chorus will be serving up a full complement of Christmas ditties and carol sing-alongs. The sentimental favorites, arranged by Wayne Love, will come in three flavors: An Old-Fashioned Christmas; Christmas is for Children; and (this being the Gay Men's Chorus) A Broadway/Hollywood Christmas. Will you hear "Let It Snow" and "I'll Be Home for

Christmas"? Yes, sir! Kitsch classic "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"? You betcha. The Ur-carol itself, "Jingle Bells"? Coming right up.

The Chorus will also present an "original interpretation" of the "For unto us a Child is born" section from Handel's *Messiah*, featuring an entire convent of nuns who have taken a vow of silence. I don't make these things up, I merely repeat them.

Christmas *schmaltz* like "An Old Fashioned Christmas" and "Meet Me in St. Louis." This sounds like a fun play list even to me, who is probably the least Christmassy guy you know. Where I grew up we Jews went to the movies all day on Xmas, something to do. Which brings me to the special moviehouse appearance of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus's second offering this Xmas season, *Home for the Holidays*. It's another tradition by now that the Chorus performs at the Castro Theatre on Christmas Eve. They'll be doing highlights from *Big Hair Holiday* and those ever-popular sing-along carols, in two shows of holiday cheer.

There's nothing like a big group of men, all singing their hearts out. *Big Hair Holiday* will fill the big stage at the Center for the Arts Theater at Yerba Buena Gardens on Friday and Saturday, December 17 and 18, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, December 19 at 2 p.m. You can pick up tickets at the Theater, 701 Mission St., or at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St., or through BASS (776-1999) and Golden Gate Performing Arts Ticket Office (863-4472). The Center for the Arts number to call for information is 978-ARTS. Big plans.

Home for the Holidays takes over the venerable Castro Theater on Friday, December 24, at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. All seats are \$10, even for the Jolly Old Elf himself, that big ol' sugar daddy who likes to dress in red. Go, and get it out of your system. ▼

Music

k.d. lang's *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*

A Cowgirl for Christmas

by Alan Frutkin

k.d. lang
Even Cowgirls Get the Blues
Sire/Warner

Searching for that last minute stocking stuffer? Pick up a copy of k.d. lang's soundtrack to the long-delayed Gus Van Sant film, *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*. You won't be disappointed.

Just don't expect *Cowgirls* to contain an album's worth of lang's Grammy-winning vocals. Serving more as a score than a soundtrack to the film, only half the songs on *Cowgirls* actually feature lang's vocals. The balance is a collection of musical interludes and short instrumental pieces that were clearly meant to accompany Van Sant's adaptation of the Tom Robbins cult novel. Yet, despite the absence of lang's voice, this is still an enjoyable recording, an eclectic hodgepodge of musical ideas and styles.

Co-written by lang and her longtime collaborator, Ben Mink, *Cowgirls*' musical range leaps back and forth between the lush pop styles of her 1992 breakthrough album, *Ingenue*, to the country roots of her earlier work, and a few things in between.

If there is a unifying element to *Cowgirls* it's lang's consistently keen sense of hu-



k.d. lang

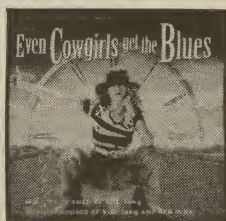
Be a Lemming Polka," lang's whimsy is in constant evidence.

When she does really sink her teeth into a song, lang produces some of her best work to date, as in the lush, Byrds-influenced, "Curious Soul Astray." And the soundtrack's big ballad, "Hush Sweet Lover," is a syrupy confection reminiscent of the best tracks on *Ingenue*.

Still, the only song on which lang really breaks new ground is the soundtrack's first, "Just Keep Me Moving." With its hard-driving back beat and accompanying horn arrangement, this song propels lang into hitherto uncharted territory — it's as if she's been listening to early '70s funk bands, Tower of Power, etc.

Most of the soundtrack's incidental music possesses a dreamy quality. As you listen to these ethereal passages, you can almost see Van Sant's trademark shots of clouds and sky rushing by. Clearly, the film and soundtrack would've made a perfect match. But then, at times, *Cowgirls*' music is so eclectic, you can understand how weird Van Sant's film must be — and why its premiere has been delayed. Film problems notwithstanding, this latest effort from lang is so close to perfect that it makes you hungry for the singer's next full-fledged effort. ▼

mor. From the strangely comical circus beat of "Kundalini Yoga Waltz," to the spaghetti western guitar in "Ride of Bonanza Jellybean," to the Minnie Pearl-inspired "Don't



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Dark	8 pm	8 pm	8 pm	Dark	6 pm 9:30pm	3 pm 7 pm
Mon.	Tues.	Weds.	Thurs.	Fri.*	Sat.	Sun.
12/27	12/28	12/29	12/30	12/31	1/1	1/2
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Theatre

Kung-Pao

(Continued from page 33)

It wasn't a religious Jewish thing; it was an East Coast, Jewish cultural thing, one I'd forgotten about until I ran into Lisa Geduldig, the brains behind this upcoming gig.

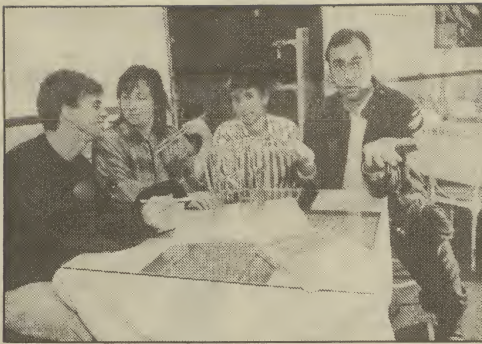
I asked Ms. Geduldig how she came up with the idea. "Last October, I performed in Northampton, Massachusetts," she recalled. "It was in a Chinese restaurant because the man who produces comedy in that town just happens to produce it in a Chinese restaurant. The actually served *pupu platters* while I was telling jokes, I figured I'd reached the pinnacle of my career!"

"In New York," she continued, "Christmas is filled with Jews going out to Chinese food and then a movie," she explained. "I thought I'd give the Bay Area a taste of this."

But there's more than a simple cultural transplantation at work here, Geduldig adds. "Even though I'm Jewish, I feel the pressure of this Christmas mania. So I'm giving myself something to do that evening; and on Christmas day, I'm going to help out with Project Open Hand."

Ms. Geduldig will be joined on the bill by well-loved Bay Area queer comics, Suzy Berger and Scott Silverman. "We have a token straight performer too," she added. Stu Silverstein, winner of the 1993 Northern California Kosher Comedy Competition, will perform with the others at the Four Seas Restaurant.

I asked how they settled on the venue and Ms. Geduldig replied that the whole thing was like some-



Kung-Pao Comedy team: Silverstein, Berger, Geduldig and Silverman.

thing out of a Woody Allen movie. "I started making phone calls to Chinese restaurants," she said with a chuckle, "and quickly realized I would have to do this in person. I mean, I'd get as far as Jewish Comedy, and there'd be *nothing* on the other end of the phone. I kept having to explain what Jews are, and what stand-up comedy is!"

The meal itself won't be kosher. "No," Ms. Geduldig replied. "I mean, it's called an evening of 'kosher comedy,' — which sounds better than 'mishuganah mistletoe' — and it's true, the comedy will be kosher, but the food won't be."

So, what can people expect? "Tacky red plastic seats, and an evening chock-full of gay and Jewish humor," said Ms. Geduldig, grinning. Folks can come for the comedy alone, or for the deluxe evening treatment: an eight-course meal *plus* the comedy! On the menu: egg rolls, wonton soup, broccoli beef, eggplant with hot fish

oil, kung-pao chicken, shrimp with snow peas, shrimp chow mein, and Four Seas' fried rice. The fortune cookies will even contain Yiddish proverbs (in English). Wow! A vegetarian option is available, but that requires a reservation in advance.

So, *butzie!* You say you've got the holiday blues? This Christmas Eve try a little chicken wonton soup and four great Jewish comics. It couldn't hurt! ▼

Editor's Note: Xmas eve, Sat., Dec 24th. 8pm at Four Seas Restaurant. 731 Grant. Between Clay and Sacramento, in Chinatown. Tix \$10 in advance, \$12 at door. Eight-course dinner begins at 6:30pm. Cost for both dinner and comedy is \$25. Tix available at Modern Times, Codys Books, and Bob & Bob. More info: 415-431-7363. Vegetarian dinner option. Reservations are mandatory for dinner. Nearby inexpensive parking: Kearny and Sacramento; and 5-Star parking at Clay and Battery.

Profile

Bianchi

(Continued from page 33)

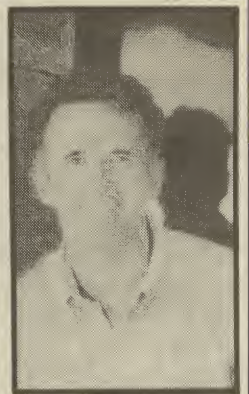
continuing "his exploration into the joy of being gay and lesbian through photography. Bianchi believes his nudes are a metaphor for the openness and democracy of the gay community. . . Bianchi sees himself not only as a photographer, but also as a political activist. His photographs challenge the stereotype of gay love as being sick or perverse."

Bianchi also seems to think his book might help curb the proliferation of AIDS. At least that's the impression cast by the intro to *Out of the Studio*, which states: "The absence of honest pictures of affection between people of the same sex is a lie of omission. This lie has left homosexuals bereft of visual representation of their natural feelings, and all of us, gay and straight, are diminished by having our nakedness and tenderness so shared. . . These negative judgments which deny us our authentic selves are toxins of virulent power. I have come to see AIDS as an immediate and poignant consequence of this long absorbed hatred. Countless generations of gay children have been taught that they are sick. When they manifest physical illness, they are told it is God's will, or the operation of an indiscriminate virus. If we use either theory to deny the poisoning effect of prejudice, we risk denying ourselves the healing power in the other half of this equation — the search for our true selves with love and acceptance."

Bianchi's message seems to be that real healthfulness, sexual, physical, mental or other, starts with real experience, even if that experience is the kind that would repulse the people from Lou Sheldon and Jesse Helms. Some have said that in the age of AIDS Bianchi proffers an insane point of view. Real sexual liberation, they would argue, can only lead to grief. But, as Bianchi puts it, we should all just relax and scream, "I love myself and Louise Hay."

If that sounds crazy, it probably is. But then who can expect creative people to be totally sane. Larry Kramer is a misanthrope, David Leavitt is insecure about his looks and clothing, and Paul Lynde wore too many gold chains. Nevertheless, the question remains: how is Tom Bianchi faring, critically, as an artist? Paul Monette has written, in one of his less lucid moments, that several of Bianchi's photographs look like "the before-and-after of a sex-fantasy scene. But the comradeship goes deeper, luxuriating in a dialogue of action and repose, an *alfresco* version of Plato's *Symposium*. . . His solitary figures . . . are out at the borders of self, mapping territory, following the trail of the tribe."

Allen Ellenzweig, acclaimed author of *The Homosexual Photograph* delivered a less purple, albeit pointed, judgement when he said that "Tom's work is decidedly not important in the scheme of things. His work is sort of like genial, but rapid, soft-porn fantasy. There is certainly a history, a tradition, of



Tom Bianchi

capturing young men swimming — Thomas Eakins being the prime example. There is something here in terms of homoerotic reverie, but I don't know to what extent Tom Bianchi really intends or is conscious of that connection.

"The big difference between his photos and those of plain folks with their Kodak cameras is that he shows very beautiful men. His work is absolutely geared toward his gay audience. That's quite clear. In that respect, it's manipulative. It's not about him trying to experience some truth about homoerotic feeling or trying to present that to us. I don't doubt that he probably gets off on all of this stuff, but I just don't think it has much real human feeling in it."

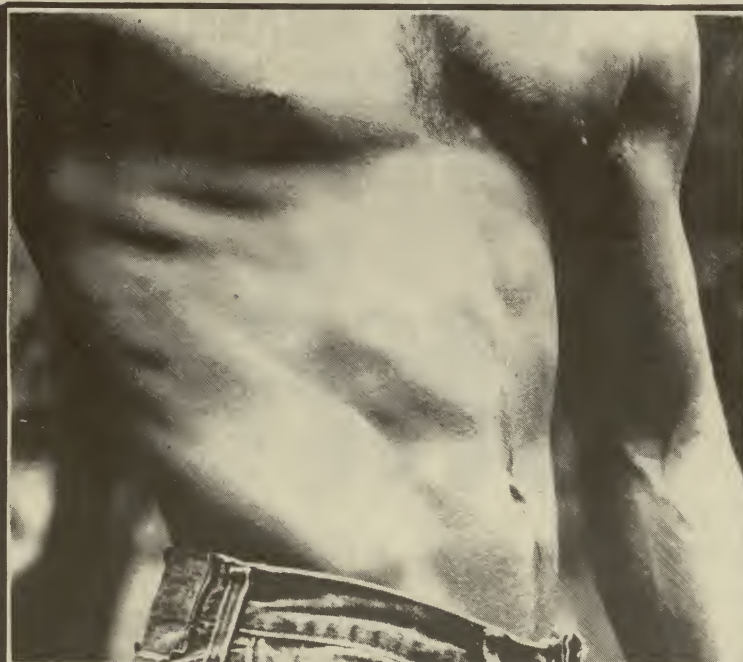
Female Nudes

But Bianchi seems able to handle any criticism that comes his way. When B.A.R. once asked him the difference between his work and Colt photos, he knew right away.

"I would admit to taking issue with some of his images," said Bianchi, "because I believe that one of the things that happened at this point in our history is that men lost their way. There is this fascination with hyper-masculinity based on the steroided body. I'm concerned about people who will take a drug which is potentially life-threatening for the sake of being in this enormous body, as if that is masculinity. It's like Chinese foot-binding. It'll be viewed as a very bizarre thing."

Surprisingly, what may change many critics' minds about Bianchi's work is a book of female nudes, scheduled for publication in 1995. Opening a box of photographs during our interview, he displayed several beautiful photographs from the forthcoming book that will, no doubt, make it a hit among lesbians and feminists for years to come. The photos, simply put, reveal naked women enjoying the company of other women. While it's unlikely that these shots will rescind any gay-pride ordinances, or cure AIDS and breast cancer, they're sure to please a lot of women who are hungry for images of themselves. ▼

Editor's Note: Tom Bianchi's *Extraordinary Friends*, published by St. Martin's Press, is available at A Different Light Bookstore for \$50.00



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Theatre

Camp

(Continued from page 33)

Katie Guthorn's performance. She not only resembles Karen physically, but manages to capture the singer's mannerisms and wholesome demeanor without being condescending. Although her vocal prowess does not always recreate Karen's resonance, there are times when Guthorn's imitation is absolutely uncanny.

Xmas with the Webers

Equally deft at skewering nostalgia are those zanies Fratelli Bologna who've once again brought their irreverent Christmas party, *The Weber Family Christmas*, to San Francisco. The cast of this show is a hilarious assortment of characters: red-nosed and red-cheeked Phil, the man who "invented the Weber grill" but had the idea stolen from him; ever-maternal Naomi who spends most of the evening nipping at her own Christmas spirits; daughter Sally Sue, who in spite of being a brat, accepts a special calling by God; and orphaned Bradley, played by William Hall, who, underneath all that nerdy klutzy, is really just a cute boy trying to get out!

The production itself is not so much campy or satirical as it is madcap. Mostly improv, the Webers invite their houseguests onto the stage (their living room) during intermission and interact with the audience throughout the show. Fratelli Bologna (Richard Dupell, John X. Heart and William Hall), and their guest performer, Stephen Kearin, command their world with ease.

Across the Bay in an intimate space at the beautiful Berkeley City Club, the Aurora Theatre Company presents *Holiday Memories*, two short one-acts based on short stories by Truman Capote. This is snuggle-up-with-a-loved-one theater. Seven-year-old Buddy (played by adult cutie Yuri Lane) lives with his older cousins — "three maiden ladies and their bachelor brother" — during the Depression. Each one-act chronicles holiday adventures he has with his hexagenarian cousin,



Those wacky, way-out Webers just can't get enough of Christmas.

Miss Sook.

At Miss Sook's insistence, Buddy faces the loneliness and pain of Buddy's elementary school tormentor by inviting him to Thanksgiving dinner. In the second play, they execute a 30-fruitcake bake-off for Christmas.

Holiday Memories features one of the Bay Area's finest actors. As Miss Sook, Barbara Oliver masterfully embodies the eccentric, but good-hearted, older woman dedicated to her young cousin. Creating one lovely moment after another — sometimes comical (as in a meeting with the local bootlegger) and sometimes serious (expressing a quiet sadness at not having enough money to buy Buddy a well-deserved bicycle) — Oliver exemplifies a homespun but unsentimental dedication to the beauties of theater.

Richard Rossi directs with a fluid style that makes the best use of this small space and highlights the sit-down-by-the-fire tone of Capote's stories, adapted by Russel Vendenbrouke. Get your tickets soon. This production only runs through Dec. 19.

Beach Blankets in Winter

For those who like tradition, there's always *Beach Blanket Babylon*.

Patrons still come in droves to enjoy this musical feast, chock-full of silly jokes

and political pokes. Everyone gets trashed in this one: Clarence Thomas, Sonny and Cher, Oprah Winfrey, and the Clintons, even Snow White, who goes on a whirlwind world tour to find a prince.

Creator/producer Steve Silver does not let Christmas intrude into this easily adaptable show, but saves the holiday spirit for last. After Snow/Madonna and Elvis go off singing, the Christmas spirit charges in with a burst of tap-dancing Christmas trees.

An assortment of Babylonized Christmas costumes follows, including King Louis' green and red-sequined pompadour and Rene Libin wearing enough Christmas finery to decorate a living room.

So remember folks, amidst all your shopping, visiting,

driving, and other holiday activities, don't forget to reach into your Christmas theater stocking for a special treat. Sometimes during all the hustle and bustle, it's a good thing to do something special for yourself. ▼

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641-0235

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Aurora Theatre Company in Berkeley presents *Holiday Memories*, two short one-acts starring Yuri Lane (left), and Barbara Oliver (right).

Seasons Greetings
from the staff and writers of
The Bay Area Reporter

Heavy Weather

Her Name Is Barbra

by Randall Riese; Birch Lane Press, \$22.50

by Chad Jones

At 600 pages, Randall Riese's new unauthorized biography of Barbra Streisand, *Her Name Is Barbra* (a cringe-inducing title if ever there was one), is about as illuminating as a doorstep and just as exciting.

Prodigious only in size, Riese's tome is yet another in a dull series of Streisand bi-

ographies that have proceeded to spew forth all the same old details of Streisand's life, namely, her humble Brooklyn beginnings, kooky ascent to stardom in *Funny Girl* and subsequent rise to the highest heights of fame. Sadly, none of these books has illuminated Streisand herself, members of her family or any of her close circle of friends. Instead, these authors, aspiring gossip-mongers all, rely on



unnamed sources, friends of friends and a vast ocean of previously published articles and television interviews.

Riese's research methods cannot be faulted. He has painstakingly documented every quote here. Yet, despite his considerable efforts, he only scratches the surface of Streisand's life. Author of previous celebrity bios on Marilyn Monroe, Bette Davis and James Dean, Riese certainly gets points for digging up people from Streisand's past who've never before been approached. Most notable are some of Streisand's high school friends who cheerfully destroy the myth that Streisand was an ugly-duckling misfit while attending Erasmus Hall High. Instead of the lonely, rebellious teenager Streisand has painted herself as, the high school chums recall a smart, well-dressed friend who knew she was a good singer.

Streisand yet. Obviously it's simply too soon in the life of this constantly evolving celebrity to create a definitive portrait.

Riese does do a good job, however, of illuminating at least a couple aspects of Streisand's life: the role of the gay community in helping to establish and maintain her stardom and her involvement in AIDS and the gay rights movement. He even goes so far as to "out" Streisand's son, Jason Gould. Riese's sources here are as dodgy as any in the book, but he quotes one "friend of Barbra's" as saying, "I didn't detect any great interest in things homosexual from her until the last few years, and I think that must stem directly from the fact that her son is gay."

Major Flaw

One major flaw of *Her Name Is Barbra* is Riese's forgoing a more direct approach to the singer's work and career in favor of framing her life and times within the context of *The Prince of Tides* and its related psychobabble.

Taking his cue from the infamous *60 Minutes* interview in which Mike Wallace hit Streisand's inner child hard and made her cry, Riese delves into the Streisand psyche via her 1991 adaptation of the Pat Conroy novel. Apparently every choice Streisand makes in life stems from her father dying when she was an infant, her mother ignoring her and the emotional abuse she suffered at the hands of her stepfather. Be it a movie role, a new lover, or a political cause, all things Streisand go back to childhood and, thus, are directly related to *The Prince of Tides*, which Riese claims was Streisand's psychological and professional apex. It's clearly not enough to hang a life as complex as Streisand's on, let alone a 600-page biography.

Another heretofore untapped source is Alan Miller, Streisand's first acting coach and the first of her many surrogate fathers. Miller provides some keen insights into Streisand as a know-nothing fledgling eager to achieve fame and respectability. To fill in the remaining 400 pages, Riese relies on the testimony of make-up assistants, lighting technicians, minor co-stars and assorted colleagues.

Ambiguous Portrait

Author Riese tries hard to present a balanced, objective view of la Streisand, a vessel of tremendous talent and temperament. "Difficult" seems to be the word used most to describe her, whether employed for praise or scorn. For every tantrum described, though, Riese provides a contrasting account of Streisand the great, coaxing brilliant performances out of her *Prince of Tides* cast or showering alms upon the world from the contents of her bottomless vaults.

The result of such painstaking objectivity is the most ambiguous portrait of

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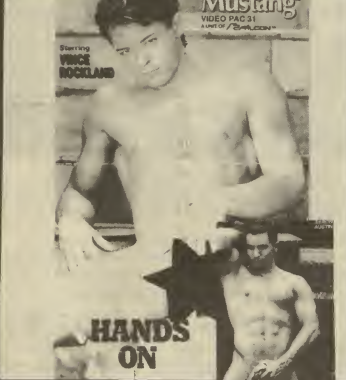
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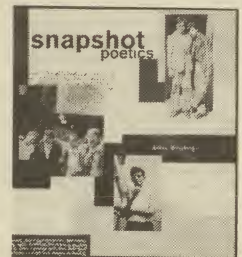
Snapshot Poetics: A Photographic Memoir of the Beat Era by Allen Ginsberg; Chronicle Books, \$12.95

by Daniel Mangin

It should come as no surprise that Allen Ginsberg's photographic eye is no less keen than his ear for poetry. This collection of "snaps" from his storied past contains group and single portraits of his many, mostly famous, friends.

Two things stand out: his subjects — William S. Burroughs, Jack Kerouac, Gregory Corso, et al. — almost always look straight into the camera, and, despite the wild tales we may have heard about them, they seem decidedly at peace under Ginsberg's gaze. People do things for the poet they might not do for anyone else: Burroughs rarely appears in photos without his trademark suit and tie, much less without his shirt.

Each photograph has a 10—50 word handwritten caption. These, some introductory comments by Ginsberg, and biographical sketches after the plates flesh out his motivations and relationships with his various subjects. The poet credits photographer Robert Frank with teaching him some of the tricks of the



trade, but along the way Ginsberg also discovered the "rapport" that exists between their two principal media. He includes William Carlos Williams' poem *The Red Wheelbarrow* and compares the strategies of the poet and the avant garde photographers of Williams' day: "They shared a common aesthetic of precise observation, and understood the importance of close attention to detail."

Even more than precision, though, poetry — visual or literary — requires insight and empathy; *Snapshot Poetics* is proof again that Ginsberg is gifted with an abundance of both. ▼

Hot Flashes

Melting Point,
by Pat Califia; Alyson Publications, \$9.95

by Noreen C. Barnes

Various sexual practices, subsumed under the rubric of radical sex, are under renewed attack, predictably by the religious right, and by righteous folk (some of them lesbians and gays who show astonishing intolerance to cultural differences) who are cuddling between the sheets with the likes of Jesse Helms.

In response, there are defenses of the "perversion" of homosexuality by those who would like to see queer people serve in the military, and in other professions, now that there may be a "gay" gene that gives scientific legitimacy to non-heterosexual proclivities. And, too, there are defenses proffered by those who simply want to express their particular desires to others who might be of similar leanings, or to those who simply might be open-minded enough to be intrigued.

The debate begun by anti-S/M folk, self-proclaimed arbiters of everyone's sexual tastes, is at an impasse that surpasses political ideologies. In essence, one simply cannot explain from where the hunger for sadomasochistic sexual activity — in whatever

fiction, between reality and fantasy. Although Califia captures the truth and provides some practical advice about many S/M encounters, they are stories.)

In *Melting Point*, the power of the pieces lies in the erotic jolt of the scenes, the superb compression of intense experience. In *Melting Point*, Califia goes beyond that. She turns up the volume, and gets into the "headspace" of S/M in an attempt to explore its spiritual aspects. Califia knows how to describe and reconcile contradictory feelings and sensations, particularly those that many will not admit exist. She also asks hard questions, of those who've survived abuse of various kinds, and of those who've discovered critical healing and a necessary reclamation of power over their bodies through S/M. In the following passage Califia eloquently articulates women's ineluctable desire:

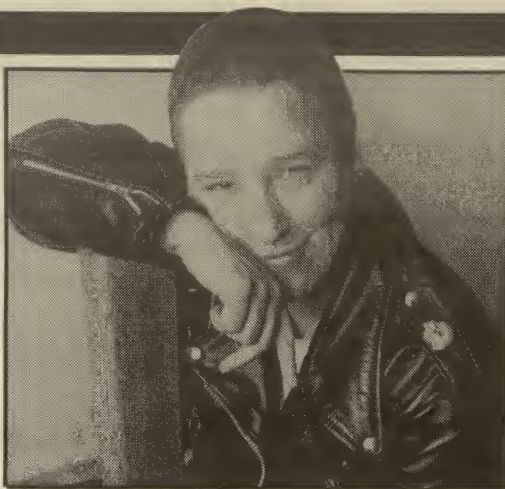
...she became very aware of her cunt. It was pressing into the seam of her jeans like a cat that leans on your leg to let you know it's break-fast time. Why, she wondered, is there no word in English to describe this? I can't exactly say I've got a hard-on, but I bet this is sort of like what it feels like to have your dick get hard. I don't know if I want somebody to suck on my clit or fuck me, but I sure don't feel passive or receptive. It's an aggressive kind of feeling, demanding, and it's not all in my head either. It's very physical.

Full Cast of Characters

Califia's multi-dimensional characters are flesh and blood people, lesbians, gay men, bi- and heterosexuals. They are outlaws and smug guppies, or sex workers with stage names like Cat, Killer and Crash; they are dope addicts, they are clean and sober. They constantly shift use of pronouns in genderfuck play. A Catholic school girl fantasy explores the virgin/whore dichotomy, epitomizing the mainstream's (be it the Catholic Church's or the mass media's) inability to conceive of women in any other terms. Califia plays with this notion, and, ultimately, transcends it. "Fix Me Up" is an unsettling, bumpy ride of obsession, the "religion" of intravenous ecstasy; the very funny "Unsafe Sex" is written from the perspective of a gay man who is jolted out of his assimilationist, upper middle-class complacency when he confronts the dangers of a casual encounter; in "What Girls Are Made Of," the fictional portion of the book comes full circle, as a hot trio of exotic dancers takes home a curious butch.

Califia concludes the book with "Slipping," notes on AIDS, porn, sex, safe-sex practices, obstacles and loss:

Most of us are doing the best we can, trying to scrape through this epidemic with as much of our libidos and our sanity as we can rescue.... Sex has always been a high-risk activity. I continue to struggle to make it as safe as I possibly can. But I can't lie to myself and pretend that I



Pat Califia, a mistress (in every way) of the short story.

haven't given something up. And sometimes I just can't make myself believe that the bargain is worth it. And then I slip. When I slip, I do things that endanger my life. But I also find the hope I need to go on compromising, struggling, doing without, and getting by.

Sex and love give us life — and give our lives meaning, no matter how we express ourselves. That's what should be paramount in times of crisis. And, by the way, in case you haven't noticed, we're in one. ▼

Editor's Note: Pat Califia will hold a booksigning and reading at Stormy Leather (1158 Howard St.) on Sunday, December 19, 2-5 p.m. Call 626-1672 for information.

One cannot explain from where the hunger for sadomasochistic sexual activity arises.

manifestation — arises; it's simply part of the psycho-sexual make-up of certain individuals. I personally don't like having to justify or defend my passions and desires, but, judging from my own personal experience, I can say that S/M is just one of many facets of the relationship I share with my lover, one dimension of an ever-deepening trust, an expression of commitment, and most importantly, part of our mutual pleasure and fun.

Mental Connections

That pleasure has been enhanced considerably by the writing, terrific sense of humor and absolutely serious sensibility of Pat Califia, who has returned to her forte, the short story, with *Melting Point*, a collection of erotic fiction published earlier this year. Califia is a mistress (in every way) of this form. She crosses new thresholds — surpassing those of *Macho Sluts* — invades new territory and blends genres with convincing ease. One of these tales, "Bounty Hunter," explores, in a manner echoing *Doc and Fluff*, the possible future of erotic adventure in the SF/fantasy mode, a foray that permits an even greater freedom of her imagination. (Imagination is a key word here: it's critical to be able to distinguish between fact and

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from the staff and writers of
The Bay Area Reporter

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

Pool

SF Pool Association Report

Snapshots Take SFPA Title

South Beach Billiards was busy last week as the site of four major San Francisco Pool Association championships. These contests picked the qualifiers for the upcoming Long Beach West Coast Challenge.

Starting on Tuesday night, the final playoff showdown between the two top seeds, Rick Mariani Photography Snapshots and Cinchtrifugal Force concluded. The Force fought the Snapshots hard, giving the Snapshots their only defeat of the season on November 30, by beating them 9-5. The Snapshots came back quickly to route the Force, topping them 9-7 at

the Cinch. Despite the close post-season championship struggle between these two teams, the final Snapshot/Force encounter ended in a lopsided fashion.

The Snapshot players have a highly competitive background — starters E.Z., Lynn Westhoven, Lauren Ward, and Rick Mariani have a combined presence on 20 City champion teams and were the core of last season's WCC Champions, the team called Tien Fu-liness. They began the match with a sweep of Force starters Dave Timko, Chris DuCoing, Rick Bradford, and Jack Dunbar. DuCoing won a second quarter

game, which only slowed the defeat of the Force. The next two Snapshot wins by Ward and Westhoven boosted their half-time advantage to 7-1. Team sponsor, Rick Mariani, put his team on the hill at 8-1 and for the second consecutive match, and E.Z. scored the final win.

The Snapshots, as the 31st SFPA Team Champions, will join a contingent of individuals who will all compete at the Long Beach WCC next month.

The Multi-contest Day

Last Saturday the large and cavernous South Beach Billiards was teeming with a horde of SFPA players, all looking to qualify as individuals for the upcoming WCC. For the first time ever, the four major individual contests were held concurrently, and the event was hosted by league statistician and Hall of Fame inductee, Gene Miller, who has become San Francisco's most prominent tournament director.

Men's All Stars

The most prestigious of the events, and the oldest, the All Star event, had a new rule this year — championship team players were ineligible for the first time. Five qualifying spots for the WCC were up for grabs in this event. Cinchtrifugal Force captain, Mark Miller, salvaged the trauma of his team's defeat by playing out his number one seeding berth by defeating Bernard Bayaca, Mark Sharpe, Wally Sutherland, and Ben Napili to claim the "hot seat" in the contest. Sutherland's match against Jack Dunbar would determine the fourth place finisher, a distinction Dunbar claimed on a 13-10 contest record.

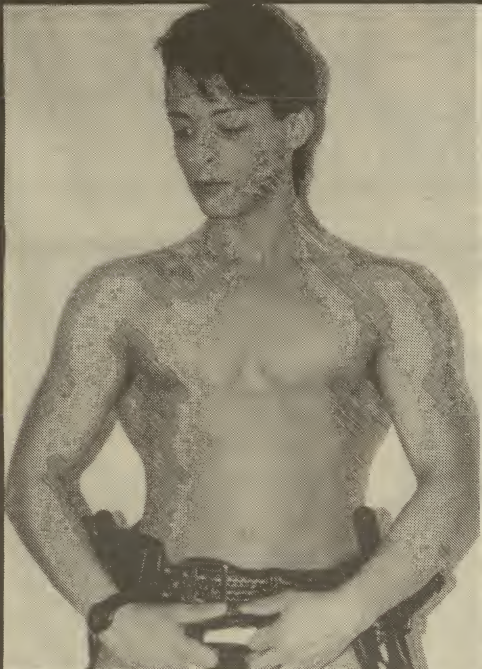
Sutherland next faced Ben Napili, who ended in third place, going 16-11 for the day. Sutherland went on to hand Miller his first match defeat, 3-1, to set up the final tie-breaker for the Championship. With Miller up 2-1, Sutherland missed a routine shot on his last ball to give Miller the victory and the top SF seeding for the WCC's Open Individuals Tournament. Miller scored 16-11 and Sutherland went 20-12 in second place. Fifth place went to Mark Sharpe, who gave up his spot on the Championship team to compete in the individual contest. Sharpe claimed the last qualifying spot for the WCC.

Women's Qualifier

In the Women's Qualifier contest, five more WCC spots were also available to the top winners. The number one seed going into the tournament was Kim Kinker, who ended up in the final four of the tournament. She's beaten Chris Sumida 3-1, to win the berth in the top four, but then

(Continued on next page)

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Men's Basketball — call Tony at 621-2710.

Bicycling

Different Spokes Bicycle Club — Sundays: Decide-n-Ride. Open to all, 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. Every Tuesday — strenuous training ride, McLaren Lodge, 5:30 p.m. Call Derek at (510) 339-2345.

Boating

Barbary Coast Boating Club — gay boat owners and enthusiasts meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina. West to the end of University Ave., #1 Seawall Drive. (415) 905-6267.

Bodybuilding

B.I.C.E.P.S. Bodybuilders Into Competition, Education & Physiques. Open to men and women. Call 267-1864 or Nick at 431-5691.

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF, CA 94114.

Bowling

Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795.

Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

Boxing

Bay Area Boxing Club, a fully sanctioned USABF (United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and les-

bians; all skill levels are welcome. Call Greg at 585-2365.

Football

Women's Flag Football: Interested women call Maureen (415) 479-1131.

San Francisco Trojans Football. Two games every Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Silver Terrace near Silver and Bayshore, SF. All skill levels welcome. Call Gary at 344-8873.

(Continued on page 51)

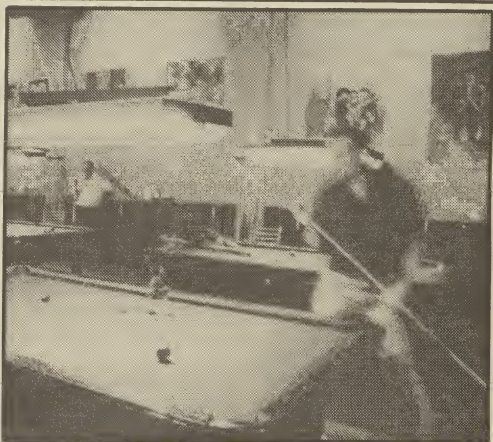
Corona Heights Native Grassland Restoration Project

Help restore some natural wildlife to the Castro! The Randall Museum, the California Native Plant Society, the Gay/Lesbian Sierrans, and many others are assisting the Corona Heights Native Grasslands Restoration Project on Saturday, December 18. This project is to help preserve and restore the native habitat on one of the last remaining native grasslands in San Francisco. This hilltop supports a rare community of over 75 different types of native plants, and was once the habitat of the endangered mission blue butterfly. Corona Heights is situated next to the Castro. For more information, call Tom Celebrezze, from the Corona Heights Native Grassland Project, at 252-0651. The work party will run from 9:30 a.m. to noon. GLS members are meeting early for the restoration project, in front of Cafe Flore, 2298 Market, at 9 a.m. ▼

Gay Softball Reschedules Tryouts

The San Francisco Gay Softball league open tryouts that had been scheduled for last Sunday were canceled due to field conditions and have been rescheduled for 10:00 a.m., on Sunday, December 19, 1993, and again on January 16, 1994. The tryouts will be held at Christopher Field in San Francisco. These tryouts are a chance for league members and non-members of all skill levels to meet with teams seeking new

players. Open and Women's division teams will be present. The usual winter schedule of two games, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at noon, will be followed. Christopher Field is located behind the west end of the Safeway parking lot off Diamond Heights Blvd. For further information, please call Tim Laime at (415) 206-9464 Skip Schaefer 861-2145, or Wendy Gershow at (510) 252-7959.



San Francisco-style pool action.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

Pool

(Continued from previous page)

was upset by the number three seed Mele De Victoria. De Victoria ended up winning third place after taking Teresa Oliver to the outer limit, 3-2. Oliver next faced Terri Connelly in the final, and Connelly's game turned stone cold in her long hot seat wait. She succumbed to Oliver: 3-0, 3-0, and Oliver claimed the women's crown. Chris Sumida defeated Lisa Radler

for the final fifth place WCC berth.

Star Search Results

Denise Catanach came within a single game of matching a long standing league record as a tournament winner with a perfect match record. Her Star Search tournament victory came on four 2-0 match wins that Ed Wilson finally broke up by winning a single game in the finals. Larry Schwartz placed third, and Benji Snooke, fourth.

Note: For more SFPA information, Dial JOE-POOL. ▼

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YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HOT
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Three hot new film programs on 3 big screens in main auditorium, each program 3 hours, changed Sunday and Thursday. Main screen—3 features; 2nd—All Hot Jackoffs, Grand Prix and Halcyon film exclusives; 3rd—Classic Film Loops of the '60s-'70s. Plus J/O Room with monitor screens. Our J/O audience does its own live show every day! Adm. \$8. Circle J is HOT, CLEAN and SAFE!

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BarTalk

PERSONALS

BarTalk ads are active from Dec. 16-22. Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones. Each call is just .98¢ per minute. You must be at least 18 years old. 1-900-844-2227

Women seeking adventure

LWF Bl/Bl, 35 seeks handsome dyke who pack a hard dick sense of humor. Imagination and smoke, drink etc ok no losers, anger, men!! EXT 1708.

Fuck me, suck me make me scream!! Hung sweet Cuban Dyke Jew looking for playmates and friends. Safe sex only DS-SM pref. I Switch. EXT1801.

You are a cute little boy in panties. Dressed up I'm're passable. I want to tease you and I want to fuck you. EXT 1802.

Men seeking relationships

GWM, 38, 5'10", 170, gym, beard, stache, 43c, 31w, top sks trim bottom into B/D, S/M, very oral. Poss LTR HIVpos, N/S only. EXT 1736.

Attr GBM, 49, well devlp, 6', 170 seeds well bit M over 45 for mutual massage, romance, travel and more. EXT 1738.

GWM, 40ish HIVneg, needs 7' cock sucked, ass massage, light spank and be fucked, slow, also likes to suck and be FF. EXT 1739.

In shape WM, hung big wants well built WM to spread their big hairy bubble butt on his hungry tongue. EXT 1740.

Mostly top WM, 30's, HIVneg, trim musc sks thin musc guys for Butt stuffing. Defined abs, flex action turn me on. Prefer blonds. EXT 1741.

Nice uncut dick on a lean, trim, healthy, HIVNeg 47yo GWM looking for a little attention. EXT 1742.

Strong, masc, couple seek younger guy to join us for fun leading to close mental, mental and physical relationship. Dominant. EXT 1743.

Pitchin n catchin FF mutl sks 50-50 butt buddies. Fir, 58, 5'11", 170, beard, tats, piercing, hot ass, sensual hands, HIVneg (gloves), 40 plus? EXT 1744.

Big butch bottom GWM, 6', 215, hairy, bear wrestler(soc/159), seeks strong aggressive big dickd top man. My size, 25 plus, any race. EXT 1745.

GWM, 41, GLM, 33, in shape. Looking for GAM or GLM in shape for 3 way sex only. EXT 1746.

BARTALK AD OF THE WEEK

GWM, healthy & clean, 38, 5'6", 130, very young looking w/muscular build, stable & employed seeks GW/A/HM for LTR. EXT 1811.

E. Bay WM fag, 40 in a wheelchair seeks cute boyish wild young punks 18-30 who like to party. Any race especially Latin/Asians. EXT 1747.

Older cocksucker grovels for twisted butches or muscular pigs. Your penis my mouth. Spit in my face. Totally degrade me. EXT 1748.

Looking for great head? Experienced WM cocksucker available to service young horny W/LM in need of release. Bi or Str OK. EXT 1749.

Vry gdlking athletic GWM, 27, 6'1", 175, well built and hung. HIVneg, into hot safe sex. Want to get involved with sex party. Call w/ info. EXT 1750.

Women!

Here is how to place a BarTalk Personal ad.

The Basic Formula:

1 First describe yourself. Be honest, so you don't waste your time, or anybody else's.

2 Then state what you are looking for. Be specific but keep in mind that if you're too specific you may limit your responses.

3 Now that you are in control, list the things you enjoy most.

4 It's fun to end an ad with a suggestion on where you would like to go, or what you would like to do when you meet!

Have Fun!

Aggressive dominant WM, hung big, 5'11" gym bod nds in shape WM, hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. EXT 1752.

Psychic? Paranormal exper? Exotic spiritual pursuits? Me too: Lets talk. I'm also traveled: Europe, Asia, India. Blessed Be. EXT 1753.

Dad will spank and take care of your hot boy butt. Me Attr, GWM, 43, 6'5", 280. You: Attr GWM, 15-38, slim, build and nice buns. EXT 1754.

GWM, 54, sks fun loving GM to 25 to travel to warm Mexico after Xmas for month or two of hot fun and good times. EXT 1755.

Extraordinary hm vid coll of amazing cck swallow tech. My bud has the biggest cock you've ever seen and I can take all of it. Handsome, laid back, expert world lk to choke down a giant. If you are really hung huge and want to best...This is it! EXT 1756.

Still going barhopping but ready for a more settled life? Like more than just vanilla sex, maybe some leather etc? German top, 38, 6', 150, cln shvn, smooth wants to meet you (cln shvn not fat or fem). EXT 1803.

BM, 45, dom top needs hot WM buns, 45plus to explore. I'm interested in more than a one night stand. LTR poss. EXT 1804.

Yours tall, husky and like to suck while I pinch your tits. 37yo GBM, 5'9", hot, stocky and HIVneg wants to control you. Call now! EXT 1805.

Cute buns youngster, 27 seeks older 53-65 man that is masculine, smart, sexy and handsome and appreciated beauty and brains. EXT 1806.

Wanted: cuddly, affectionate, youthful and cheerful companion for a caring professional, trim and musc WM, 62, HIVneg. Men of color espec welcome. Personality more important than looks. EXT 1807.

Masc, built BiWM, 5'10", 153 looking for musc, sensual man in Oakland area. HIVNeg, 25-45, humorous, sexy, handsome and discreet. EXT 1808.

Super attr Latino Male, Goatee, 32, 150, HIVpos, well endowed, a real vers, hip, youthful appearance and attitude, lifestyle seeking same. Be Over 28, secure, HIVpos a plus. Are you ready for a real hot relationship? EXT 1761.

Attractive Latin 30yo, HIVpos, healthy, cealn cut fit, vers sks HIVpos man for boyfriend/companion/poss romance. EXT 1762.

I'm 40's Br/Br. Would like to meet GW/LM, 30-40 who will be alone for Xmas that would like to get together for whatever. Xmas is a bitch alone. EXT 1763.

Handsome LM bottom seeks Big and thick dicked daddy's. LTR for anal son. Aromas and toys ok. HIVneg, U B 2. Safe sex only. Oral recip apprec. EXT 1764.

Attr GWM, 70, 5'8", 155 seeks ongoing romance with gdlking 18-45 younger man who relates to being with older man in and out of bed. EXT1765.

Athletic Asian, goodlooking, 27, 5'7", 140 seeks men form Mid East or men who look alike. EXT1766.

Over sexed bottom seeks top GWM, 43, 5'8", 160, Br/Br, well hung and cut, HIVpos looking for a fun loving and oversexed top. EXT 1767.

Like service big dick? Get hot fuck? Me: 30, masculine, hairy, handsome top. You: under 30, cute bottom. Eager to please sexy stud. EXT1768.

Attr GBM, 30, 5'11" looking for GWM. Must be mature and masc. Facial hair a turn on. EXT 1769.

Seeking and affectionate Asian topman to explore poss w/ WM, 43, 5'8", 160, Bl-Br/Br, stache, HIVneg, gym goer, professional, educated, considered attr and younger looking. EXT 1770.

GAM, 28, 5'5", 110, mature, ready for relationship w/ WM, 30-38. You must be in shape intelligent, humor, proud, no fat, no bottom. EXT1771.

I like sex, drinking, smoking and fill my life with all. Missing guy who can handle my bad habits. If you think you can, leave a message. EXT 1773.

GWM, 28, 5'8", 165, in shape, hairy, stache, shy, HIVneg seeks hunky BB, 25-45 for friendship and poss relationship. EXT1774.

Seeking relationship. GWM, 33, 5'9", 130. U B 25-35, serious, mature, sensible looking for friends or relationship. EXT1775.

What a big dick you have son! Let yr hot yng dad suck it. I'll sow you how to please another man and I'll eat yr sweet load. EXT1776.

WM big bro type with hearty appetite seeks young, hndsm, hung latino who needs the mouth and throat of a pro. I'm young 40's, masc, fit. EXT 1777.

Prolonged nipple play, lingering kisses, oral action, affection too with GWM, 5'9", 158, blond, 49, HIVpos, smoker. Once or a lifetime. EXT 1800.

Still going barhopping but ready for a more settled life? Like more than just vanilla sex, maybe some leather etc? German top, 38, 6', 150, cln shvn, smooth wants to meet you (cln shvn not fat or fem). EXT 1803.

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Masc, built BiWM, 5'10", 153 looking for musc, sensual man in Oakland area. HIVNeg, 25-45, humorous, sexy, handsome and discreet. EXT 1808.

Financial District blond dad seeks bright and eager to learn from bedroom to boardroom. I'm HIVpos, smoker. Live in possible. EXT 1810.

GWM, healthy and clean, 38, 5'6", 130, very young looking w/musc build, stable nd employed sks GW/A/HM for LTR. EXT 1811.

Goodlooking masc GWM, 39, 6'1", 200 not into gay life. Exception to what you've met. Sks sim masc guy. Be beautiful inside. EXT1812.

Looking for fun and companionship. I'm 46yo, GBM, tall, swim build, nice guy. You: Warm, intelligent, sexy top. EXT 1813.

HIVpos Latin top wanted. Capricorn, Virgo or Scorpio only. Moustache, husky, tattoos, mota are pluses. Bl/BL, 31, 6', 190 seeks cuddle monster. EXT 1814.

WM, yng 50, prof, NS, ND, 5'11", 165, seeks W/A/HM for LTR. Prefer 25-35, slim, no hair, HIVneg. Employment a must. EXT1638.

GAM, 24, 141, 5'10" seeks GWM, 18-30, goodlooking, HIVneg for LTR and fun. EXT1816.

GWM, 36, hairy, husky, balding and mustached seeks attr guy, 20-30 w/boyish looks for poss relationship. I enjoy bicycling, safe sex. EXT 1817.

E Bay uncut, seeking mutual suck buddy for long hot oral play. 35, goodlooking, masc guy likes getting drained. Me: 5'11", 180, HIVneg wants sim hairy beefy. U/C a plus. EXT 1709.

Novice bttm, masc, musc, GBM, thick, ripped, hung, 6', 187, mod hairy, stache seeks musc top. Pref hairy. You must be thick and ripped. EXT 1710.

Latin Lover 39yo, 6'200, smooth, playful, loving, and youthful sks masc, ethnic M, w/ sim Ht and prop for dating and LTR. EXT 1720.

Alameda BiWM, 49, Scandinavian bttm, HIVneg, 5'11", 210, like suck and being fucked. HIVneg top G/W/HM. Prefer a big cock. EXT 1721.

Are you uncut and, like to lay back and get serviced by GWM? Dark guys a plus. EXT 1712.

BM, HIVneg, 59yo, 170, 9' U/C wants submissive, depthroated cumfreak masseur. Older, hung, pro-sword swallower a plus. Your looks unimportant. EXT 1713.

Horny? My warm mouth? My massage talents will lift yr spirits too. No Greek. I am a Bi WM. Mature and nurturing buddy only. EXT 1714.

Latin Man, 49, 6', 190, athletic, smooth, HIVneg seeks men under 30, any race for safe fun, friendship. EXT1715.

GWM, 33, 5'9", 160, HIVpos, goodlooking seeks top for fun and sex. Leather okay. EXT 1716.

Help me get back into life. No, I'm not June Allyson. After 3yrs of caregiving, I'm lngk to reconnect. In every way. I'm attr GWM, 40, 5'8", 155, Neg, lngk for someone to shr rom dinners, theater, movies, gd convers and fun. You prof, GWM, 35-45, hthy, Sense of humor a plus. Sincere a plus. EXT 1717.

19yo GWM seeks GAM age 18-30 for rshp. Dating first. N/S, N/D, no attitude please! Call me. You won't be disappointed. EXT 1718.

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Alameda BiWM, 49, Scandinavian bttm, HIVneg

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 16, 1993 PAGE 45

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 17

Bewitched, The Play
New theatrical version of the old TV show. Proceeds go to the HIV Touring Project. \$15. 8pm. Thru 1/1. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Big Hair Holiday
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus performs a full-tilt vocal concert, with special guest vocalist Lisa Gray. \$10-30. 8pm. Also Sat. at 8pm & Sun. at 2pm. Center for the Arts, Yerba Buena Gardens, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Criminal Hearts
Live Animals Theatre Group's production of Jane Martin's riotous comedy about two very different women: an agoraphobic divorcee and a thief who's come to clean her out. \$10. 8pm. Thru 12/19. Shotwell Studios, 3252A 19th St. 292-7793.

Don Cherry
Cool cornet jazz from the father of Nenah Cherry. \$8. 9pm. E'Space, 520 Hayes St. 861-4657.

Holiday Memories
Theatrical adaptation of Truman Capote's short stories. \$12-18. 8pm. Also Sun at 2pm. Thru 12/19. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. (510) 843-4822.

It's All True
Opening party for Timothy Alan Taylor's photo exhibit of Bay Area landscapes and happenings. Buffet & live music. Proceeds from photo sales benefit Face to Face and AIDS Emergency Fund. \$5. 8pm-2am. Ziggurat, 16135 Main St., Guerneville, Russian River. (707) 869-1400.

Jeffrey
Obie Award-winning play about a man who gives up sex, only to meet the man of his dreams, who's HIV positive. \$22-30. 8pm (Tue., Wed., Thu.), 8:30 (Fri. & Sat.). Thru 1/2. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Jumping the Broom
Restaged version of the romantic comedy revue about gay and lesbian weddings. \$12-18. 8pm (Sat. 5pm, Sun. 3pm). Thru 12/18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. at Mission. 861-5079.

Kiki & Herb
Roasting on an Open Fire
Campy holiday lounge act gets the Xmas spirit(s). \$7. 11pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th. 863-4177.

Lezzie Holiday Show
Scroog-ette in the "Lesbian Christmas Carol" plus sing along and other amusing short acts. \$5-15. 8pm. Thru 12/18. Five Corners Theatre, Petaluma. (707) 545-9806.

Local 7
Showcase of dance & new performance by Keith Carrollo, Brynn Edyn, Erica Essner & others. \$7. 8:30pm. Also 12/18: Dancers' Group Footwork, 3221 22nd St. at Mission. 824-5044.

Karen Ripley & Suzy Berger
Dyke stand-up and duo improv. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

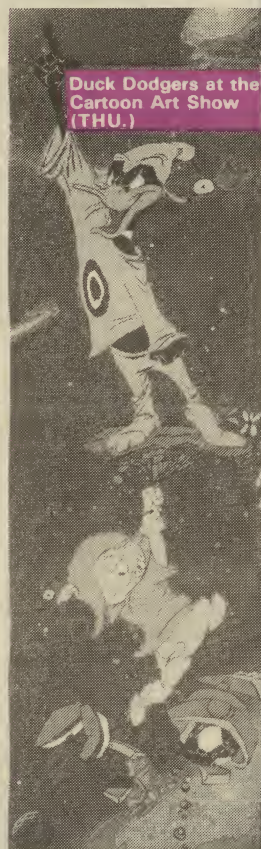
Really Rosie
Carole King & Maurice Sendak's musical play about a girl's wild dreams and their fantasy to make a movie about her life. \$10. 11am & 1pm. Also Sun. Thru 12/23. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie
Dance Brigade's irreverent and politically charged twist on the old Nut, with a live

jazz rendition of the score, with guest performers from many other companies. \$11-16. 8pm. Also Sat. Sun. at 2 & 8pm. Calvin Simmons Theater, 10 Tenth St. near Fallon, Oakland. (510) 652-0752.

Risk Gay
Scott Capurro's one-man show about the world of comics, its closet hazards, and his coming out. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 12/19. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Sex and Gravity
Jess Curtis instigates a dance performance music experiment with cohorts Keith Hennessy, Kathleen Hermesdorf, Stephanie Maher and others. \$7-14. 8:30pm. Thru Sun. 848 Community Space, 848 Divisadero. 885-1602.



Duck Dodgers at the Cartoon Art Show (THU.)

Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie (FRI.)

SATURDAY 18

Chanticleer Christmas
Concert of Renaissance and contemporary holidays songs. \$16-19. 8pm. Also Sun. at 7pm. St. Ignatius Church, USF Campus, Fulton at Parker. 392-4400.

The Cross Pollination Show
Justin Bond, Kris Kovick, Masha Gessen, Robin Stevens, Miss X, Sister Mary Wings, Miss Betty Pearl, Minnie Pearl Necklace. All for only \$5. (Proceeds benefit GLAMBLA, dedicated to promoting cross-dressing among minors, baby royalty and tiny divas.) Suits for the girls, if you please. 8pm. Red Dora's, 485 14th.

Gay Comedy Night
Karen Williams, Sabrina Matthews, Suzy Berger. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

A Star is Born
Judy Garland's ultimate fame film (the restored version, of course), in glorious CinemaScope. \$5. Thru 12/19. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 863-7576.

The Virus That Causes
Sequel to *Animal's Positive Christmas*, a viral celebration of newfound status. \$5. PWAs free. 9:30pm. Thru 12/18. Lennon Studios, 271 Dore St. 561-1441.

The Well of Horniness
Raunchy ridiculous lesbian drama, a wicked parody of dime store '50s female imagery, repressed housewives and femme fatales. \$12. 8:30pm. Thru 12/18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Word Art
Collaborative works using text by Philip Horvitz, Michelle Rollman & John Woodall, Wayne Smith & Rex Ray. Free. 8pm. Small Press Distribution, 1814 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-3077.



Oakland Ballet's Nutcracker

MCC Christmas Concert
Several choirs, with guest soloists and an instrumental ensemble, perform works by Handel, Pinkham, Holst and Sweelinck. Free. 7pm. MCC, 150 Eureka, 863-4434.

Golden Gate Men's Chorus
An old-fashioned Christmas concert, with traditional carols and old favorites. \$6-12. 8pm. Also Sun. at 3pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church.

Phallic Folk Art Show & Sale
Showing and sale of erotic art. \$2. 1-6pm (10pm-midnight for members). Erotic baked goods and hunky Santa, too. Eros Center for Safe Sex, 2051 Market. 985-5209.

Year-End Drawing Party
Gay men's session with nude model. Free with food to share. Hosted by Mark I. Chester. 3-6pm. 1229 Folsom. 621-6294.

Baseball

You love ballet. Your partner loves sports. Now, mend your differences and blend your favorites at **The Nutcracker**, Oakland Ballet's version of the sugar-sweet holiday ballet. A special performance Friday, December 17, includes special cameo dance performances by Oakland A's Tony La Russa, Barry Weinberg, Ron Darling, Todd Van Poppel and Troy Neal. See the star athletes (like last year, below), trainer, and team manager pas de bourree (that's shuffle for jock jens). \$8-45. 8pm. Mats. at 2pm. The show runs through Dec. 26, without baseball players. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400.

Hello, Gorgeous

Don't be surprised to hear **Barbra Streisand** singing in the Castro this weekend (actually Ken Joachim). She's raising money for Stop AIDS Project Fri, Dec. 17, from 7:30-9:30pm at the outdoor ATM courtyard of Bank of America. If it rains, she'll sing on Saturday, 5-7pm. Sure, she's getting millions for doing Vegas, but for us, she'll sing for free. That's how much she loves us. Oh, just thinking about it I'm vekkempt. Talk amongst yourselves.

Grinch Group

Hate Christmas? Want to celebrate some other way? Come to **Bah Humbugi**, a Klubstitute Kristmas in Never-Never Land with Arturo Galster, Jennifer Blowdryer, Roxy Toxic, Flynn, Deena Davenport, Robbie D., and many more talents singing, lounging, and being desperately fabulous. \$4.98. Saturday, December 18, 11pm. The Peter Pan Lounge & Bar, 45 Turk at Mason & Market. 928-6991.

Anima (WED.)



SUNDAY 19

Connie Champagne
Mambo Italiano! Connie sings pop songs Italiano as Cordova Luna! \$5. 10pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th at Florida. 863-4177.

Nutcracker
Performance by Palesch Pacific Ballet with proceeds going to Face to Face, Sonoma County AIDS Network. \$15. 7pm. Spreckels Performing Arts Center, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa. 544-1581.

WEDNESDAY 22

Anima
James Balog's photos of humans and chimpanzees. Thru 1/29. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission. 621-2107.

Bazaar Navideno
Mexican & Latin American folk arts & crafts. Thru 12/24. Galerie de la Raza, 2857 24th at Bryant. 826-8009.

Jamon Jamon
Although a tale of straight love affairs gone awry, this Almodovar-esque Spanish film is decidedly queer in its amusing portrayal of sexual foibles, including the town stud, who enjoys some nude bullfighting in the moonlight with his buddy. \$7. Lumiere Cinema. Polk at California. 885-3200.

THURSDAY 23

Always...Patsy Cline
Country western musical about the life of the great crooner and her devoted fan Louise Seger. \$18-26. 8pm. Also 2pm Sat. and 2pm & 7pm Sun. Mason Street Theatre, 340 Mason. 98-CLINE.

Beyond Therapy
Quirky farce about shrinks, lovelorn bisexuals, and nut job therapists. \$20. 8pm. Hotel York's Plush Room, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

Box Conspiracy
George Coates' latest multimedia theatre work invokes a Nielsen family and the insidious interactive tube technology that takes over their lives. \$14-34. 8pm. Thru 1/30. George Coates Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 863-4130.

Cartoon Art Show
Duck Dodgers, Bugs, Woody Woodpecker, the Jetsons, Wilma and more in this animation cel exhibit. Thru 1/6. ZYT Galerie, 923 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. 948-4363.

Ceremony of Spirit
Nature and memory in contemporary Latino art, including artists from Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and Panama. \$3. Thru 2/20. The Mexican Museum, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. 441-0404.

Dykemare Before Christmas
Celebrate the return of Female Trouble, the gay rock club, with a wild holiday music playlet featuring Santa Elvis Herselvis, Alcohol of Fame, Stone Fox, & DJ Stephanie Philips. \$5. 9pm-2am. Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th at Texas. 626-4455.

Fairy Tales
Exhibit of William Wegman's *Fairy Tales*, with dogs dressed as damsels. Also, anonymous photo collages, probably a woman artist, from the 19th century. Thru 12/30. Franke Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

Figureat!
New paintings and works on paper by Enrique "Kiko" Govantes. Thru 12/31. Terrain Gallery, 165 Jessie St. 543-0656.

Homenaje a la Guadalupe
Exhibit of art dedicated to the Virgin of Guadalupe. Thru 12/31. Polanco Gallery, 242 Gough St. 252-5753.

Noh Christmas Carol
Dickens goes Butch (and Noh & Kyogen) in Theatre of Yugen's dance, puppet, theatre adaptation. \$8-12. 8pm. Also Sat. & Thu. at 2pm. Thru 12/23. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa at Alabama. 621-7978.

Phantom of the Opera
Andrew Lloyd Webber's amazing musical about the scar-faced guy who lives in a sewer. \$25-65. 8pm. Curran Theatre, 445 Geary. 776-1999.

Philip Trager: Dancers
Photo exhibit of well-known dancers like Bill T. Jones and Mark Morris. Thru 1/29. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission St. 621-2107.

Ram Studios Open Studio
Retrospective of Franco Tarsitano's muscle boy photos for clubs and ads. Thru 3/1. 4077A 18th. 558-9564.

SCUM:
The Valerie Solanas Story
Play about the twisted feminist who shot Andy Warhol. \$5. 9pm. Thru 1/23. Marilyn Monroe Memorial Theater, 96 Lafayette at 11th. 552-3034.

The Weber Family Christmas
Fratelli Bologna's charmingly blasphemous Yuletide tale of an oddball holiday celebration. \$10-26. Thru 12/26. Bayfront Theatre, Building B, Fort Mason Center. 392-4400.

Who's Afraid of Red, Blue, Yellow, Green & Orange?
LA photog Keith Boadwee's boldly colored images of butts and butthairs enlarged to gargantuan proportions. Thru 2/5. SF Camerawork, 70 12th. 621-1001.

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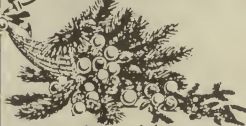
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Jan. (FRI.)

Beauty & the Best:
Part Fantasy (above)
& Jamon, Jamon
(below, both WED.)

Justin Bond performs at
three gigs this week.
Can you find 'em?

MONDAY 20

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Hank Donat. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Swaddling Couture
Holiday hootenanny with Justin Bond, Elvis Herselvis & the "dyke-abilly" Bucktooth Varmints. \$2. 9:30pm. Mondays thru Dec. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market at Sanchez. 861-5016.

TUESDAY 21

Call Her Savage/Baby Face
Clara Bow's comeback film about a manic debutante includes an early Greenwich Village gay bar scene with singing queens. Barbara Stanwyck stars in *Baby Face* as a waitress/slattern who boinks her way to the top. \$7. 7:30pm. Pacific Film Archive, UC Berkeley, 2625 Durant Ave. (510) 642-5249.

Lavender Lounge
Christmas TV Special with Acid Housewife, Ann Drogynous, and the premier of the Pansy Division video, *Homo Christmas*. 10pm. Cable Channel 47.

Sarah Schulman
Talented lesbian author of *People in Trouble* reads from her latest, *Empathy*. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Lynn Geesaman
Dramatic B&W landscape photos. Thru 12/31. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Margaret Cho & Mark Davis
Two of the hottest comics in the country share a riotous evening. Go! \$10. Thru 12/26. 8pm. 10pm on Friday. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Part Fantasy
Sexually imaginative drawings by seven lesbians. Thru 1/4. Jack Hanley Gallery, 41 Grant Ave. 291-8911.

Pre-Kwanzaa Market
Market of clothing, crafts, cards, food, toys and music in African art forms. 1-6pm. Thru 12/27. Center for African American Art & Culture, 762 Fulton at Webster. 563-3519.

Small Works for the Holidays
Exhibit of lots of small paintings by gallery favorites Paul Cadmus, Dean Larson, Randall Lake, Jason Gaillard, and many others. Thru 1/8. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post St. 441-1138.

12 Nights of Christmas
Survey of objects and artwork by Bay Area dabblers, of wood metal and glass, all for sale. Thru 12/24. 6-9pm. Refusalon, 630 Natoma. 431-1046.


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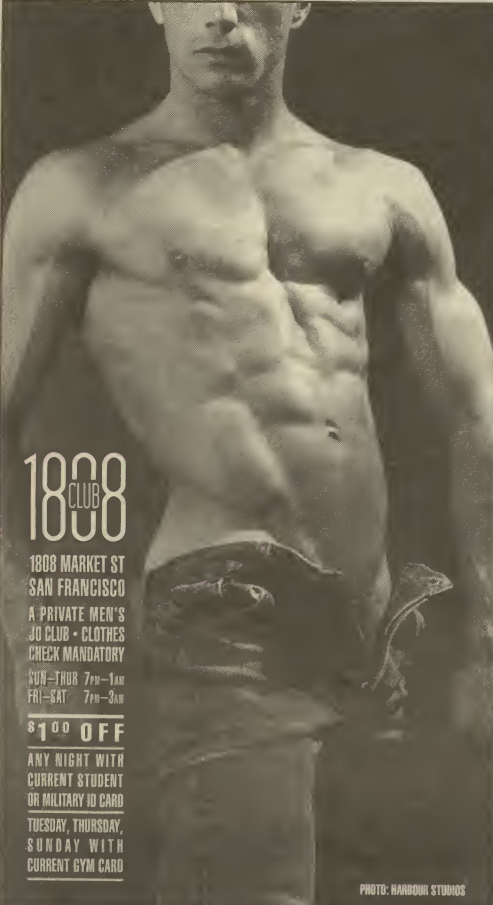


PHOTO: HARBOUR STUDIOS

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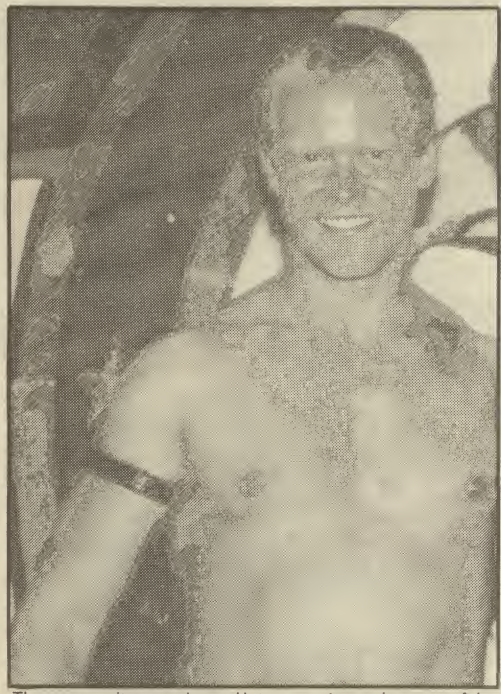
Mr. Marcus

Saturday Could Be Your Lucky Night

The list of prizes to be raffled and auctioned off this Saturday night, December 18, for the International Mr. Leather travel fund is growing. And many leather title holders and their friends are volunteering to collect money, sell raffle tickets and pour lots of beer and soda for the event. The \$8 beer/soda bust begins at 2000 with food prepared by International Mr. Drummer, Graylin Thornton. Leather personalities from the Southbay will help out as well.

Some of the added prizes include a pair of certificates for two weekend nights at the Russian River Resort in Guerneville, good through May 15, 1994. If you and your honey want to get away from the frantic pace of city life, the Triple R with a heated pool has just the thing. This has proved to be one of the most popular resorts in the Russian River area. Owner Rich Wilson is right on the ball.

Steven Arthur, an admirer of the leather community, has made an offer of two one-hour (non-sexual) massage sessions (bravo!) if you get the winning raffle ticket in this Saturday's event. They say you haven't lived until Steve has kneaded your bod! Other prizes include 125 brand new collector item t-shirts, the custom leather SF-Eagle vest, a half-dozen newly-released male erotic videos — all are potentially yours for a paltry \$1.00 raffle ticket. Hope to see all of you there! And, by the way, when International Mr. Leather Henri Ten Have found out what the leather communities in San Jose and San Francisco are doing for him this Saturday, he was just plain flabbergasted and, of course, he sends his gratitude and thanks to you all in advance. Be there!



The community was plunged into mourning at the news of the death of former Mr. San Francisco Leather, Mitch Johnson on Saturday, Dec. 11. A memorial service will take place in early January.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

My Fallen Comrade

It's tough enough on everyone dealing with close friends and acquaintances who are dying of AIDS before your very eyes. Often, as we all know, it's just a matter of time before the tears will flow and your heart will be wrenched with grief. Last Saturday, while I was in Los Angeles, experiencing an intense rainstorm and enduring the 49ers' blunders on TV against Atlanta, my misery was further strained when I received word that my good

friend, buddy, confidante and pal, Mitch Johnson, had passed into the beyond after a long and painful struggle with AIDS. It was eerie that I should receive the news of his death while watching a football game; during my last visit with Mitch, he was in high spirits and we were both dishing and laughing while watching a football game on TV. It was the last time I saw him alive.

Mitch, like so many others before him, was that deadly captivating, handsome, butch,

(Continued on next page)



Members of the West Hollywood Cheerleaders presented a check for \$1,000 which they donated to Aid for AIDS at the premiere of their fundraising video by Zeus Studios at the TomKat Theatre in West Hollywood last Friday, Dec. 10.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mr. Marcus



Mikal Bales, (surrounded by the West Hollywood Cheerleaders) the creative force at Zeus Studios, digressed from his SM/bondage fare to produce "Out of Control," a hilarious video with campy leather scenes featuring leather title holders.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

blonde boy with dazzling blue eyes, a healthy complexion, snow white teeth and a smile so sincere, it could knock you off your feet. He was the type of guy even the most hardened butch types would want to know better.

Mitch was the product of a righteous upbringing in the healthy confines of Middle-America — a small town in Iowa. He learned early in life the values of hard work, honesty, caring and dedication to whatever endeavor he chose to pursue. Mitch was always the first one to tell it like it is; a no-nonsense approach to every task and every relationship. One of his few indulgences in life was his boat, which made him very happy. He loved to talk about his sailing experiences.

He could be extremely laudable with everyone who proved successful in their endeavors and was always the first one to deliver a searing diatribe if you were foolish enough to fail at something, or not keep a promise you made. His every pursuit was successful and his gentle de-

meanor and startling good looks made you want to help him with a project or work alongside him to make a difference. Twice on the Eagle's bare-chest calendar, and once on the cover, like his present-day counterparts, Mitch was often seen hawking and autographing the calendars on 18th and Castro, in the South-bay, at the Russian River and wherever necessary. He later became a member of the board of directors of his favorite charity, the AIDS Emergency Fund.

His foray into the leather community proved successful as well when he prevailed over other contestants to win the Mr. SF Eagle Leather title and then the Mr. San Francisco Leather title in 1991.

Probably his greatest triumph was being named the 2nd runner-up at the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago, in May of the same year. As a judge at that event, I can tell you that at the end of the prejudging session, Mitch was the leading contender. San Francisco's contingent in Chicago that year

was hungry for the title — after all, it had been more than five years since Patrick Toner, Mitch's hero, had brought the trophy to rest on our turf. But, in the end, it was not to be. However, because he was such a crowd favorite and made such an impression on the judges, he swooped in over some 57 other contestants to get the bronze medal, 2nd runner-up. The title went to D. Cannon of Los Angeles, but San Francisco's leather community was jubilant nonetheless.

The entire leather commu-

(Continued on next page)

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Affairs to Remember

Weekend Dec. 16-18: Animal Smith presents his statement on the HIV epidemic with *Animal's Positive Christmas II: The Virus That Causes at the Lennon Studio* (271 Dore Alley) at 2130 all three nights. Only \$5. Call (415) 561-1441 for special needs. Free for PWAs.

Thursday, Dec. 16: Loyal fans of the SF-Eagle are invited to participate in their annual Christmas party tonight beginning at 2000. Always a bountiful and beautiful buffet. Savor their delightful holiday decorations!

Sluts for Sensation play party for SM/leather dykes at Club Eros tonight. This is the last one in a string of successful efforts. You know the location, the rules and the criteria for looking mean.

Saturday, Dec. 18: The big IML benefit with hundreds of T-shirts, framed photos, dinners, drinks, videos, beer, soda, camaraderie, and food — a production of Mr. Drummer and every leather personality for miles around. From 2000-2300 at the SF-Eagle. Only \$8.

Mark I. Chester hosts a drawing session for artists interested in drawing the bound male. Bring your own materials. From 1300-1500 at 1229 Folsom. Call (415) 621-6294 for reservations.

Sunday, Dec. 19: Golden Gate Peace Officers Association (aka Pigs in Paradise) hosts the beer/soda bust at the SF-Eagle from 1500-1800, with food. \$8. No entertainment. No auction. No raffle. Just fun!

SF Forum of motorcycle clubs annual Christmas party at St. Paulus Church on Gough from 1700 to 2000. Admittance by bike club overlay or invitation in hand.

Sunday, Dec. 26: Ms. SF Leather Queen Cougar presents a leather version of *Family Feud* at the Eagle beer/soda bust from 1500-1800, with two teams vying for victory. Only \$8, and it should be a blast!

Wednesday, Dec. 29: Time flies! The Jackhammer celebrates its first anniversary tonight, beginning at 2000. With a buffet and their stunning first anniversary pin. Come on down and help celebrate leatherdom's newest butch bar.

Thursday, Dec. 30: Hot Ash West cigar marathon at the Lone Star tonight, the last one of the year. You know the rules, and no gas masks allowed.

Thursday, Jan. 6: Looking for Mr. January 1995 on the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar. Competition begins at 2200. Win \$100. Fun. Glory. ▼

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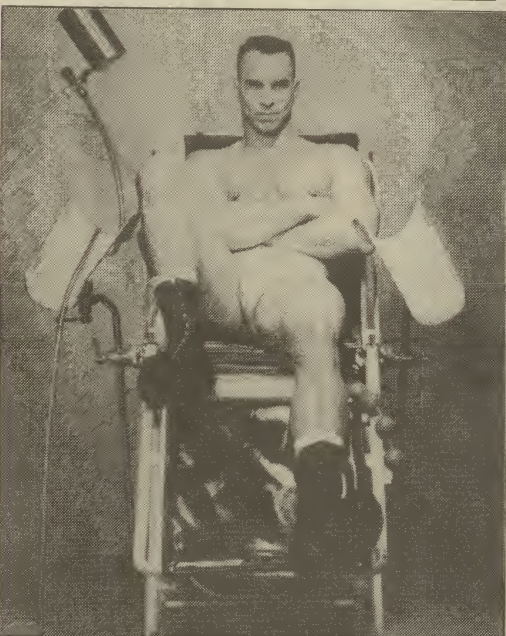
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Mr. Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

nity across the land grieves with us over the loss of Mitch Johnson. We can only live with this state of affairs in a reasonably sane way by knowing that at last the suffering he endured over many months is over; that he leaves a legacy of brotherhood and dedication for all to emulate and that the leather pride and love of our brothers and sisters will always be compared to the standards that Mitch, himself, set. It's not easy writing about our fallen comrades. It hurts and it hurts a lot. But what an enriching feeling to know that God was benevolent enough to let us have Mitch Johnson in our midst, to laugh with, work with, fight with and for some, to love with. As the saying, "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away" goes, consider yourselves extremely lucky to have had the friendship and caring that Mitch Johnson himself gave to you. I shall miss him.

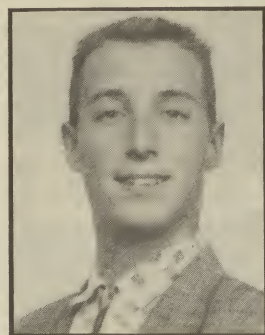


International Mr. Leather Henri Ten Have sends holiday greetings to everyone and a big thank you for the IML Benefit being held for his travel fund at the Eagle on Saturday night, Dec. 18.

(Photo: Serge Dob)

Wally Hansen

Nov. 19, 1967 - Dec. 3, 1993



If ever there was a young, energetic leatherman, uniform wearer, biker, all-around enthusiast and outstanding member of the leather community, it was Wally, who departed for that big bike run in the sky late on the evening of December 3.

A native of the Bay Area, Wally was one of the youngest members of the Cal Eagles Motorcycle Club. Although he was already a fervent activist in community outreach, he chose that club because of its great record in supporting the worthy fundraising efforts of others in the community.

As a driver for Scenic Hyway Tours, Wally made it a delight to be a passenger aboard the luxurious buses with him giving a block-by-block historical rundown on the neighborhoods he drove through. His curiosity was boundless, and he next appeared as a sales clerk at Mercury Mail Order, where he was always helpful with people searching for that "just right" esoteric toy or leather gear. He next became the helpful phone person in the Bay Area Reporter offices, fielding the thousands of calls to the office from around the world. His thorough knowledge of the various gay communities, not only in San Francisco but everywhere else, would have been the envy of the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Always laughing, enjoying life and never uttering a harsh word about anyone, Wally's good looks and personality landed him in the Eagle's Bare Chest calendar one year. He was also a volunteer on many occasions at International Mr. Leather in Chicago and at the International Mr. Drummer finals in San Francisco. In the summer of 1992, Wally was featured in an issue of Newsweek as part of a story on HIV-positive youth, complete with a color photo and an interview.

His volunteerism was impressive. He never said no when asked to help with a particular project or fundraiser. For a person so young, his record as a productive member of the community was almost unmatched. We'll all miss that towhead boy ... wise beyond his years and always proud of his community.

Wally is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hansen of San Pablo, California, and a myriad of friends among his chosen family, including Richard Twining, who is probably the person most responsible for guiding a young man through the intricacies of life, as a mentor, supporter and true friend. Donations in Wally's name may be made to the Inter-Club Fund and the AIDS Emergency Fund. At deadline, no memorial service had been scheduled. ▼

* * *

A big crowd was on hand at the TomKat Theatre in West Hollywood last Friday, December 10 for the premiere of Mikal Bale's "Out of Control: a day in the life of the West Hollywood Cheerleaders," who've been invited

to perform at the opening ceremonies of Gay Games IV next year. Most of Southern California's major leather title holders participated in the hilarious sequence in an S/M beauty salon. D. Cannon wielding a whip to produce a

(Continued on next page)

Sweet Lips

Thanks Steve, Love Ya

Well, I just want to say 'thanks' to Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue in Portland for an absolutely wonderful weekend. And that goes for all who helped make it so memorable. The bar was beautifully decorated for Christmas — one of the most lavishly decorated bars I have ever seen — by Bobby Brue and his crew. It was simply fantastic.

Thursday, the 16th — that's tonight — is Kimo's annual Hawaiian Christmas Party in the Penthouse Show Room. It promises to be bigger and better than ever, if that's possible. It starts at 8 p.m. Be there or be square.

Emperor IX, Bob Pace presents his annual "Country Christmas" at Kimo's on Sunday, the 19th, from 7 p.m. on. The show is a benefit for the Night Ministry. A one dollar donation is requested for

eventual purchase of a Sony Stereo System. Oh, did you know that Bobby is now on the plank at the Hob Nob Lounge?

Speaking of hobnobbing, the Giraffe's video lounge and annex (great dancing) will hold its annual Christmas Party on Monday, the 27th, at 4 p.m. Stop by and sample delicacies from a wonderful holiday buffet, prepared by Mr. Dennis Tyler.

Well, in other news, one of our leading bar and restaurant owners is retiring on January 2. Mr. Lenny Mollet is closing Chez Mollet (527 Bryant St.). Let's all get down there and have a meal before it closes. Golly Lendra, you must be running the oldest and best place in the city. Good luck in your retirement years and remember, Sagitarians don't like being idle.

Mark Campanella is now manager of special markets

for Matagrano Inc., which handles all of the Budweiser products. He's doing a great job of it, too.

Hey, it's that time again friends. Applications for Emperor and Empress can be obtained on Friday the 17th thru Friday the 7th of January at Kimo's, Lily's, Hob Nob and Marlena's. They must be turned in Friday the 7th of January at Lily's. Voting is on Saturday the 12th of February from 10 a.m. till 7 p.m. at Charpes on Gough St. And then comes Coronation 1994 — Mardi Gras madness — Saturday, the 19th of February at the Gift Center Pavilion. Be prepared.

I now want to wish one and all of my faithful readers a very, very Merry Christmas. And, yes, I will be working on Christmas day from 8 till 1 a.m. at Kimo's, so come on down and join us for some Christmas cheer. ▼

Mr. Marcus

Kenneth LaPierre aka Grand Duchess X Kitty Litter 1944 - 1993

Kitty passed away peacefully in his sleep over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Recently honored by the Mayor's Office for his charitable activities, Kitty was a vital, brave and humorous member of San Francisco's gay community.

He is survived by his father, Ray, in Montana and his brother, Dennis, who lives in Southern California. Dennis' son and daughter were Kitty's "kids," and he was thrilled to become "Grandma Kitty."

Kitty loved his big family of friends at Alvin's Bar on Geary and became an "Alvin's Orphan" when the bar closed last spring; Kitty kept in touch with all his friends from the bar.

"Red Hot Henrietta Brown" was Kitty's signature number when performing for benefits, bike runs and Grand Ducal events. Kitty watched his own mother perform that number when he was a "little girl" and was proud to wear some of her original dresses for his shows.

Kitty was active for many years in a number of San Francisco's bike clubs and fraternal organizations, including the Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Club, serving as president for one year. At one of the Motorcycle Awards ceremonies, he was honored as Buddy Rider of the Year in balloting conducted by the Inter-Club Fund.

You're "up there" now, kid, with "Red Hot Mama." Say hello to all of our friends. We love you, Kitty.

Kitty's ashes are now next to his mother's in the Big Sky country of Montana. His big collection of memorabilia will be auctioned off at a celebration of his life to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund at Old Rick's Gold Room Bar on Geary on January 9, 1994, from 1 to 4 p.m. Donations may be made in his name to the AIDS Emergency Fund. ▼



(Continued from previous page)

bee hive; Guy Baldwin spraying and fluffing a "do" and hastily rubbing his armpits on the hair for effect. This fast-paced video is so full of action you have to be very alert to catch all the overt and subtle suggestions. Hedda Hair, the matriarch of the group and others presented a check for \$1000 to Aid for AIDS as part of the proceeds of the video, which is on sale for \$19.95. Hey, kleig lights, leather personalities, dragcheerleaders, it was a "happening" event and you would have loved it.

On the homefront, super photographer Tim Collins had his hands full with over 50 "tough customers" swooning before his lens at the Tough Customer photo party at the Jackhammer Bar last Thursday night, December 9. Coupled with the photos obtained at Greg's Ballroom the week before, the next *Tough Customer* Magazine should be a bountiful collection to peruse.

Mr. and Ms. Alameda County Leather, Randy and Beth, are bathing in admiration due to the great turnout for the Santa Slave Auction last Sunday at the Turf Club.

And before I go any further, be advised that R.J. Chaffin and his handsome consort, Chuck (not "Chuckie") in Chicago are not divorced after all, contrary to what I reported last week. Some people can be so vicious!

See you at the big IML Benefit this coming Saturday night, won't I? ▼

Sports

(Continued from page 43)

Hiking

San Francisco Hiking Club — Call Clyde at 285-1260.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline: 281-5666.

South Bay GLS — call the Loma Prieta GLS hotline at 408-236-2170.

Racquet and Paddle Sports

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation — Abi 333-9618, or Carlos 626-7519.

Table Tennis Anyone? Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 p.m., at Milberry Union, UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF. Call Allen Balderson, 626-1787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

Running

San Francisco FrontRunners. Fun runs at Stow Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, every Saturday, 9 a.m. No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954.

San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966.

Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

Softball

S.F. Gay Softball League — Conducts a regular season of 14 games for men and women in three divisions from March through June. A winter schedule of pick-up games will be-

gin on November 21, 1993 for eight Sundays. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Please call Fred at (415) 381-0187 or Wendy at (510) 436-7959 for information.

Swimming

Tsunami Masters Swim Club — call Suzanne at 431-1933.

Team San Francisco

Gay Games bound Team San Francisco hopes to take at least 1,000 athletes from the Bay Area to Gay Games IV in New York, June 18-25, 1994.

To join TSF, call (415) 824-8118.

Volleyball

Volleyball practice every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call Tony Travers at 255-1332.

Club Volleyball practice for "B" league players and up every Saturday except first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Team and individual advanced players practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m., at Glen Park Gymnasium. Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056.

Gay Volleyball. Every Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club. Practice Thursdays and Fridays, 7 p.m., at Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, men and women welcome. Call Gene at 821-2991. Bay Area Wrestling Newslite at 227-5802.

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ket, SF, CA 94114, #103. or
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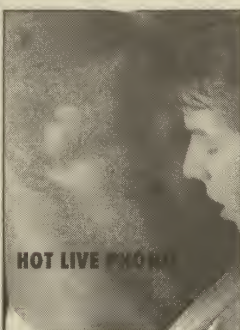
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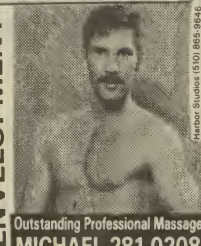
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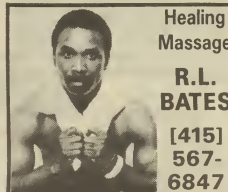
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DEEP TISSUE, STRONG
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- Relax
- Rejuvenate
- Release Emotions

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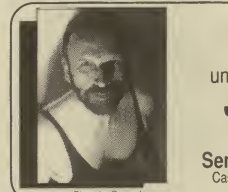


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\$30/1 1/2 Hrs., \$80/1 Hr.
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TECHNIQUE IS
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\$45

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Nurturing, Sensual
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STRONG HANDS
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From Stress Reduction to
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Near Japan Town!
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Hermann, always satisfying.
\$40 in. 648-0604. E50

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under the experienced hands of
JAS DEWSNAP

Certified Massage Therapist
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Castro location \$40 • 1 1/2 hours - Discount PWA's

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One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
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sensual experience
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6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr





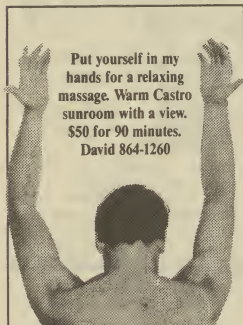
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SENSUOUS TOUCH
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\$35 IN/\$45 OUT



Great Full Body Massage
By Caring & Sensitive C.M.T.
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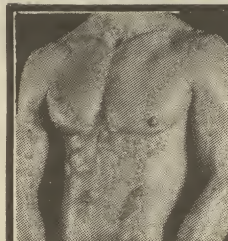
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Erotic nude massage.
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Sensual Massage
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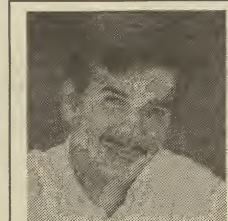
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Sensual, Erotic
Nude Massage
by 24 y/o Handsome
Muscular Caring Guy
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by muscular, handsome, CMT.
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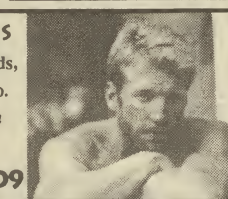
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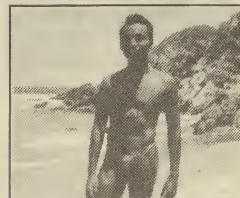
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Who Demands the Best
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A RELAXING MASSAGE
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Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
Massage Lotion & Table. Hard to Beat It
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Swedish style full
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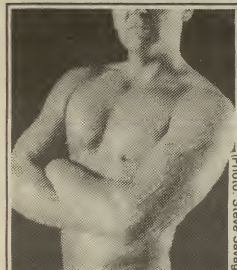
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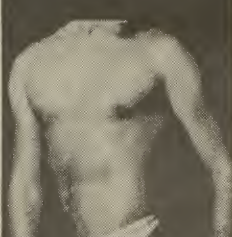
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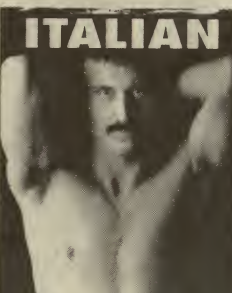
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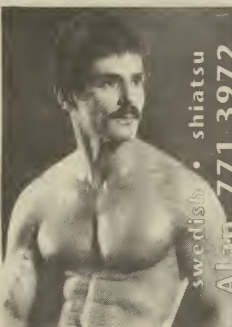
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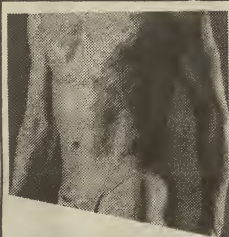
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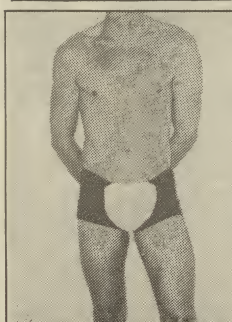
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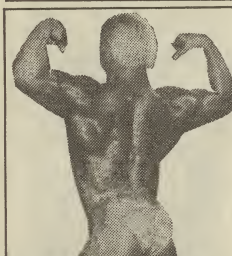
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Preppy Top



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will ride you way
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INCREDIBLY
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BROWN HAIR
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SMOOTH, TAN
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9X6 CUT
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Model 27 yrs. 9" thick
round buns, rock-solid
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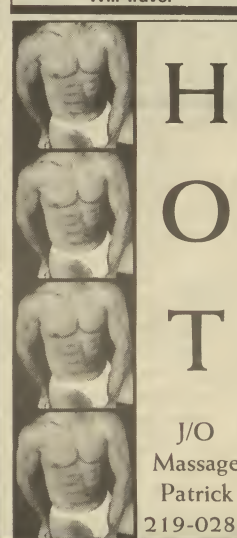
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Exhb Muscle Worship.
52" C, 21" A, Mega Dk.
11" x 8" 863-4848
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9X6" HORSE HUNG
VERBAL • BLOND • SMOOTH
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With Hard Muscle to Lick &
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8" cut, 18" arms,
49" ch, 32" wa
Aggressive Top,
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hot as ever
6' 180# age 25
aggressive
versatile thick 8"
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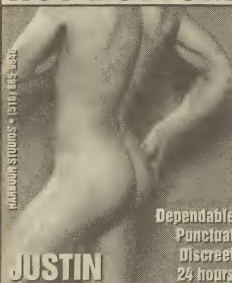
Passion
Jeff
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TOP/out



People and Personals

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24 hours
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Handsome
Clean-cut



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SEXY
BLOND



eye/wknds • out
Sean 978-6161



Friendly, Handsome
Buffed, Sensuous
TONY 597-3613



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Joaquin
★★★★★
XHOT XHANDSOME XHUNG
5'10", 150#, 28YO,
LATIN GUY INTO PLAY SESSIONS,
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inside. Wanna play?
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THICK & HARD
Verbal, fun, nice to nasty!
Playroom + toys. 280-1719

6', 240#, 21A, 53CH
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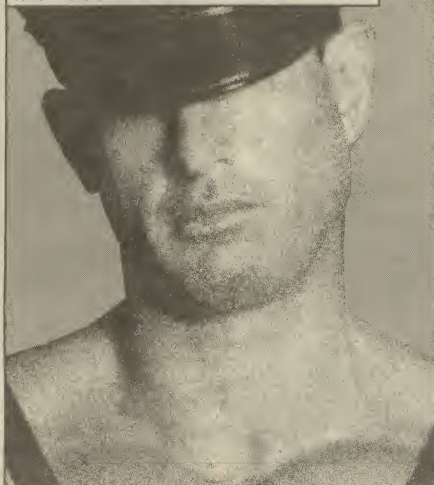
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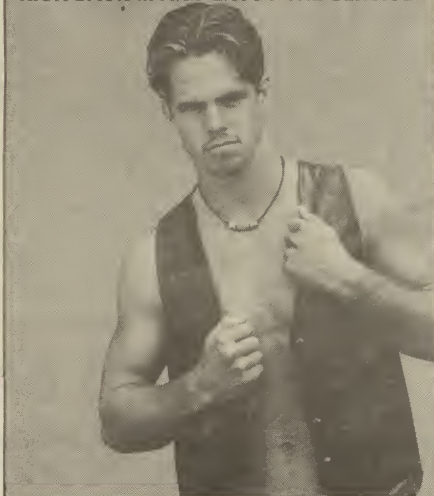
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